

NEWS ROUNDUP

Contempt ruling on Lonrho today

The law lords will today consider whether Mr Tiny Rowland's Lonrho company and the *Observer* newspaper are guilty of contempt of court and contempt of the House of Lords (Richard Ford writes).

Mr Rowland, Lonrho's chief executive, Sir Edward du Cann, the company's chairman, and Mr Donald Treford, the paper's editor, have been told to attend the hearing so they can be cross-examined about their conduct relating to the publication of a midweek edition of the paper. It carried parts of a report by Department of Trade and Industry inspectors into the sale of the House of Fraser and Harrods stores to the Al-Fayed brothers.

Copies of the special edition were sent to four of the law lords who were about to hear Lonrho's appeal against a Court of Appeal ruling that Lord Young of Graffham, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, was right to postpone publication of the report and refuse to refer the takeover to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Fears on seal deaths

Fears of a new outbreak of the distemper plague which killed thousands of seals last year have been aroused by three deaths within the last few days (John Young writes). A second carcass was found floating in the sea off Blakeney Point, Norfolk, at the weekend, near where a dead seal was washed up last week. A third seal found on the beach at Hunstanton died shortly afterwards. The virus killed two thirds of the seals in the Wash last year. There has been no evidence the virus caused the latest deaths but RSPCA officials at the Norfolk seal unit say they are worried.

Advice on salmonella

New advice for consumers on how to reduce the risks of food poisoning is being issued by the Government today in response to growing concern about food-borne infections, particularly of salmonella in poultry and eggs (Thomson Prentice writes). Government statistics show that in the second week of this month there were 240 reported cases of salmonella poisoning, of which 167 were attributed to the strain of the bacterium found in eggs and chickens.

Ford transfer delayed

Ford is facing delays in its move to transfer production of its Sierra saloons from Dagenham, east London, to Genk in Belgium. Belgian union leaders are understood to have thrown out shift pattern proposals for the 8,000 workers at Genk. About 100,000 of the 162,000 Sierras sold in the UK in 1988 were made in Dagenham, but Ford says it wants to use single-model plants to cope with increased demand after the advent of the European single market in 1992.

Visa move for Kurds

Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, and Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, are now considering the introduction of visas to stem the flow of Kurds to Britain, 600 of whom have arrived in the past four weeks. In 1988 only 500 arrived throughout the year. This would be a major departure for Britain which does not require visas from other European countries, though it does for immigrants from the India sub-continent.

Advice service ended

The Local Authorities Management Services and Computers Agency is being wound up after meeting serious cash problems (David Walker writes). Mr Roy Barnes, its director, has been suspended and an investigation has been ordered into recent financial dealings by the organization, set up 20 years ago to advise councils on new technology and management systems.

Post Office chiefs under attack over mail service crisis

By Tim Jones, Employment Affairs Correspondent

Post Office workers and leading mail users launched a scathing attack on the postal service yesterday, which they claimed was in crisis because of bad management.

As members of the Union of Communication Workers heard that top managers may be taken to court for "wilful delay to the mails", the users accused the Post Office of costing British commerce more than £4 billion a year because of delays and lost letters.

Mr Alan Tuffin, general secretary of the union, said members were being used as scapegoats for "massive management failures".

A joint report by the Mail Users' Association (MUA) and the Association of Mail Order Publishers claims the service is now so bad it should be dismantled and handled by a board of directors, dominated by customers, to set standards and prices.

Mr Julian Blackwell, chairman of the MUA, said: "Our report is a damning indictment of an industry in crisis. The Post Office have never achieved even their own targets for quality of service in the last decade."

"Our latest survey, which measures 'end to end' —

pillarbox to letterbox — unlike the Post Office's grossly misleading sorting office to delivery office figures, reveals that only 64 per cent of first-class letters are hitting the delivered next-day deadline. This is appalling — the service needs radical reform."

The report, *Deliver us from the Post Office*, says that while the Post Office is trying to respond to new challenges, increased volume and competition of electronic mailing, basic services are "remorselessly deteriorating".

According to the report, delivery standards are at an all-time low and there is a disturbing increase in the number of letters being misdirected or lost.

"Industrial relations are in a shambles. Morale is waning. False promises are common."

It adds: "Last year, for example, the Post Offices justified price rises on grounds of service improvements, including Saturday deliveries. Eight months later there are still no Saturday deliveries yet no one has suggested a rebate, a refund, a price freeze or an apology."

The report makes six main recommendations to break the monopoly and suggests that large sorting offices should be

closed in an attempt to improve industrial relations.

Mr Tuffin threatened to take Post Office managers to court and told his union conference their anger was "born out of the frustration and pressure of our members being used as a scapegoat for massive management failures".

He said that because of that, over the past 12 months alone, there had been more than 50,000 working days lost through unofficial disputes — excluding the national strike last September.

"Our members do not stop work just for the hell of it. The public has the right to know why and what has caused this collapse of confidence. We have desperate management at a total loss."

Mr Tuffin said the Post Office was now threatening to invoke the criminal law with allegations of "wilful delaying" the mail.

"This is not macho-management. It is bullying management. Well, we have had enough and the first firm case I get of a manager wilfully delaying the mail by stacking up bags because his local budget has run out, I will instruct our legal advisers to take action."

SDP clings to independence

By John Lewis, Political Staff

The SDP was clinging tenaciously to a separate political existence last night.

The 350 delegates at the party's policy-making council meeting at Coventry feared bitter recrimination and even disintegration but left confident that the party was alive and just kicking.

Anxiety about the manner in which Dr David Owen and Mr John Cartwright, the party president, appeared to court the Labour Party persisted. However, the council accepted almost unanimously proposals to slim the organization. An emergency motion, in effect calling for a loyalty test

on party leaders was dropped. In his final address, Dr Owen said it had been a "good weekend".

"We faced difficult choices, we made them and we have revived, if anyone was flagging, our commitment to social democracy," he said.

Rejecting overtures from Labour and the Democrats to SDP members, Dr Owen said: "Political kerf crawling and collective blenders have been warned off our party."

He reinforced his appeal to Labour to join an anti-Thatcher coalition. He said the presence of the SDP in such a coalition would add respecta-

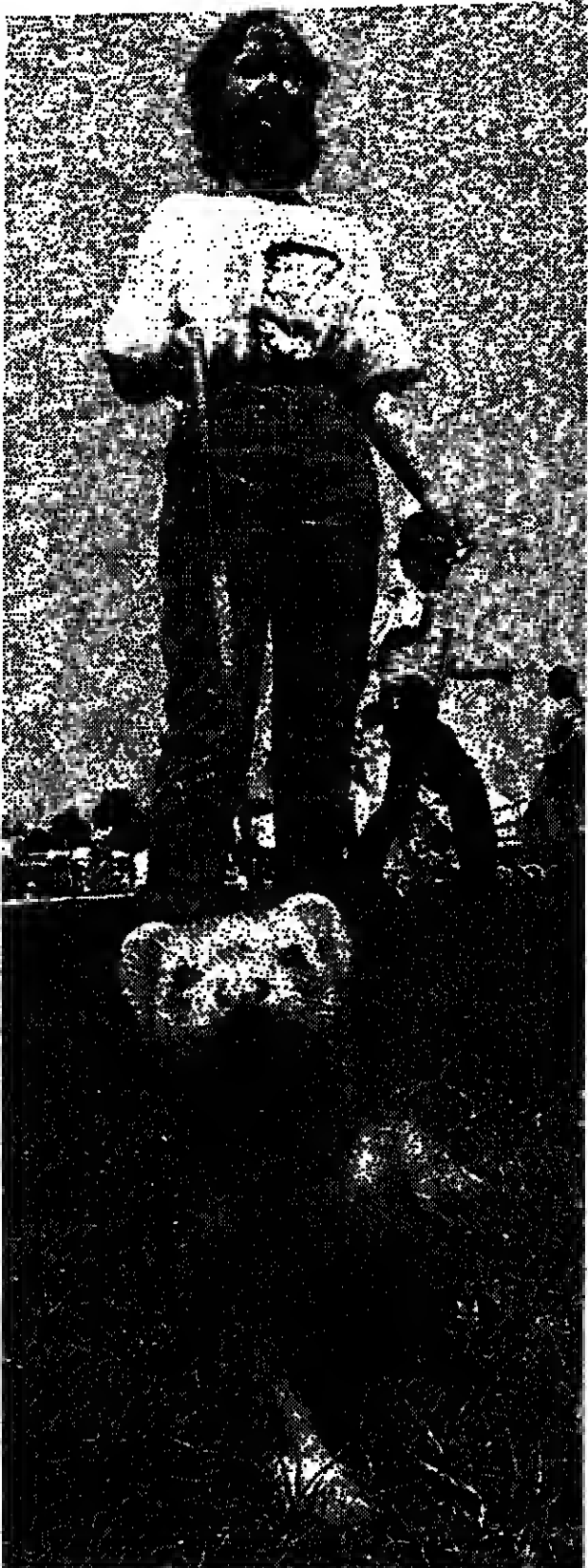
bility to Labour's new defence policy and its position on the National Health Service.

"Labour on their own will not sound credible to millions who rightly doubt the permanence of their new found commitment to the British nuclear deterrent, the European Community and the market economy," he said.

● The SDP re-launch after its split with the Democrats was based on wrong membership figures — 26,000 instead of 11,700 — and may have been abandoned if the true ones had been known. Dr Owen told delegates the executive learnt of the error this month.

Ferrets' big day

JAMES GRAY



Mandy Tyler, aged 16, exercising her pet ferret, Rascal, before the National Ferret Welfare Association's show at Little Linford near Newport Pagnell, Buckinghamshire (Anne McElvoy writes). The society represents several thousand ferret-owners and 200 of them were at the show with their charges. Ferret-owners from The Netherlands and West Germany went, too. The all-coners champion was a female ferret called Bubbles, belonging to Miss Andrea Petchley, of Cheltenham.

Judges to oppose Mackay reforms

By Richard Ford, Legal Affairs Reporter

Strong opposition to the central features of the Government's proposals to reform the legal profession is expected tomorrow when the country's leading judges publish their official response to the three Green Papers.

The judges' formal reply was sent to the publishers after a meeting at the Royal Courts of Justice on Saturday at which the Lord Chancellor defended his proposals for a radical shake up.

Lord Mackay of Clashfern spoke to more than 100 court of appeal and high court judges during an hour-long session described as "frank and amicable" and answered questions about the implications of his proposals on the independence of the judiciary.

After Lord Mackay left the private meeting, the judges discussed and approved a formal response drawn up by a working party of the judges' council.

One source at the meeting said: "There was perfectly sensible questioning. There was no raising of the roof. After all, we are all judges and are all in the same profession. There may be disagreement with what he was proposing so questions were asked and he answered them."

Leading judges have strongly opposed Lord Mackay's proposal for a lay-dominated advisory committee on education and conduct, which would be appointed by the Lord Chancellor's department.

The strength of feeling generated by the proposal, which many fear could undermine the independence of the judiciary and the administration of justice, has led several peers and MPs to believe that Lord Mackay will offer concessions to ensure that his measures pass through the House of Lords.

● A report to be published today by the Bar Council is expected to recommend the televising of court proceedings, after a study of procedures operated in the US, Canada and several European countries.

Church struggle: page 14

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Britain's clean beaches untested for virus risk

By Mark Sonster

Many of Britain's most popular beaches, among them candidates for a European Blue Flag award for cleanliness, are likely to be unsafe and a health risk through viral contamination.

Analysis of three sea water samples commissioned by *The Times* revealed that two broke EC virus standards. A beach at Torbay, which already has a Blue Flag, was shown to have viral pollution six times above the permitted level and there was also evidence of polio virus.

Seaton Carew beach in Northumberland was just one point above the permitted level, but also showed evidence of polio.

The sample taken from Southend in Essex was found to meet EC standards.

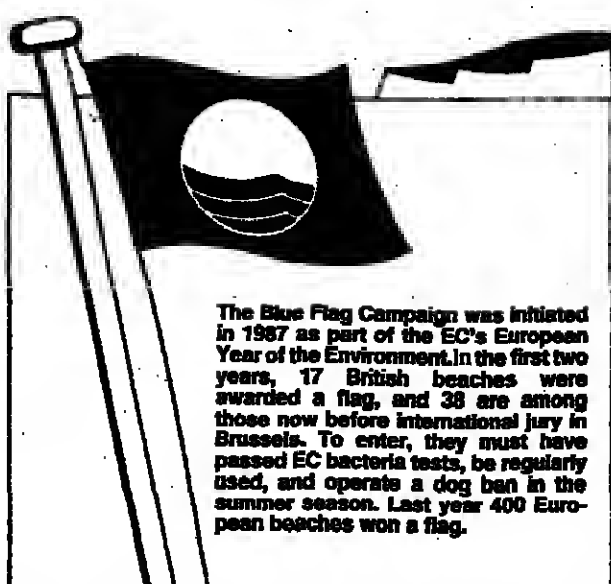
There will now be a call to close a loophole in the EC 1975 Bathing Water Directive which allows beaches to pass bacteria tests only. Tests for potentially more serious viruses are often not carried out.

Mr David Wheeler, manager of Water Research Services at Surrey University's Robens Institute, insists that sea water must be tested for both bacteria and viruses.

He said: "The *Times*' analyses do not surprise me. I am sure a majority of Britain's beaches would fail virus tests."

"It is not good enough for blue flags to be awarded on bacteria tests alone."

Scientists know that viruses are far more prevalent and live far longer in sea water than at first believed. There is also a growing body of opinion



The Blue Flag Campaign was initiated in 1967 as part of the EC's European Year of the Environment. In the first two years, 17 British beaches were awarded a flag, and 39 are among those now before international jury in Brussels. To enter, they must have passed EC bacteria tests, be regularly used, and operate a dog ban in the summer season. Last year 400 European beaches won a flag.

which links sewage-contaminated sea water with health risks.

Illnesses previously dismissed as "holiday tummy" could well be caused by bacteria from some of the 350 million gallons of sewage pumped into the sea daily. Viruses could be responsible for a catalogue of more serious diseases, including hepatitis and wasting diseases.

The true extent of the problem, and how serious viruses may be, remains unknown. Last year 130 beaches failed the bacteria test and 42 per cent of those beaches also failed the virus test. The 1975 directive states that if a beach fails the bacteria test, then a viral test must follow.

Testing for viruses is costly, and to bring all Britain's beaches up to EC standards would, it is claimed, cost the

Government and the Water Authorities Association millions of pounds, at a time when the water industry is being prepared for privatization and investors are being courted.

Mr Wheeler, whose department conducted the analyses for *The Times*, said: "It is common for bathing areas which are identified as bathing waters under Department of the Environment criteria to pass on bacteriological standards but fail on virological grounds."

"In these cases it is arguable that the bathing waters should not be given 'pass' status. The Government cannot say, 'okay, we meet half the standards therefore we pass'."

Miss Christine Berry, his colleague at the Robens Institute, said: "A beach which passes the bacteria standards

and is put forward as an example of cleanliness and health could well be contaminated with viruses."

She said authorities in Britain hid behind the fact that if a beach passes the bacteria standards, tests for viruses need not be conducted.

She agreed it was a strong possibility that many beaches nominated for a Blue Flag award could pose threats to health but because tests were rarely done "no-one knows what is in the water."

"It is only when private individuals or organizations such as *The Times* commission tests that the public finds out what is there."

Torbay Borough Council said it was satisfied with sea-water standards and confident there was no health risk. The Government maintains that the virus standards are "impossibly strict".

Each summer 20 sea water samples are taken from Britain's 400 designated bathing beaches. Under the Directive 95 per cent should pass. Last year Britain fell well short of that figure, but the Government has recently embarked on a £100 million programme to reach compliance by 1995.

Last night, the Department of the Environment said the risk of catching a serious and potentially fatal illness from contaminated sea water was remote. "Unless the water is disgusting there is no practical danger."

The South West Water Authority agreed that beaches should be tested for viruses and would like to see the regulations changed.

Vertical thrills in Leeds

ASADOUR GUZELIAN



A gripping moment for Mme Catherine Destivelle, a French competitor at the indoor climbing competition at Queen's Hall, Leeds. The first indoor climbing grand prix in Britain attracted 50 entrants from 18 countries. They had to scale a 40ft plastic and plywood wall.

Portfolio Bond

The road to a win

The Government's £12 billion roads programme helped Dr Hywel Davies to win Saturday's £2,000 Portfolio Bond prize.

Dr Davies chose construction companies for his Portfolio Bond card and won when the sector rose after the government announcement.

Dr Davies, a Sheffield University lecturer, of Abbeystead Rise, Dore, Sheffield, South Yorkshire, will spend his winnings on a holiday and home improvements.

Mr J Allison, of Donaldson Road, Shooters Hill, south-east London, and Mr J Clayton-Smith, of Manygates Lane, Wakefield, West Yorkshire, redeemed their cards for £100 and Ms E. A. Foot, of Portingfield Road, Rye, East Sussex, redeemed hers for £25.

Finest farmer

Miss Fiona Balmont, aged 24, won the most successful Devon farmer award at the Devon County Show, Exeter.

£50m complex

A British marketing company, Jean Hedley, is to help to develop a £50 million sports complex in Moscow.

Setting off

Doug Scott, the British mountaineer, is leading an expedition on an unconquered peak in the Karakorum range in north-east India on Friday.

Busiest MP

Mr Simon Hughes, the Social and Liberal Democrat MP for Southwark and Bermondsey, is Britain's hardest working MP, say the organizers of National Motivation Week.

Airline cabin staff 'too old at 35'

By Harvey Elliott
Air Correspondent

Airlines who ask cabin crew to retire in their mid-thirties were unrepentant last night despite criticism from union leaders that they were discriminating on the grounds of age.

Air Europe, whose cabin staff have to sign a contract limiting their flying duty to the age of 35, said: "Being on your feet all day serving passengers to an aircraft is a physically demanding job and one which requires an enormous amount of energy and enthusiasm."

"We have had such a policy since we were set up 10 years ago."

British Midland said it did not have a specific policy because the problem did not arise. Staff either left or moved to senior management jobs in the company.

Even airlines such as British Airways, which technically allows its cabin staff to fly until

Package holidaymakers staged a four-hour sit-in protest on an aircraft at Birmingham yesterday. The 120 holidaymakers flying from the Greek island of Zakynthos to Newcastle-upon-Tyne refused to get off after being held for two hours when the aircraft was diverted because of fog. Paramount Airways, which operates the aircraft, agreed eventually to fly the passengers to Teesside, where they were taken by bus to Newcastle, arriving 14 hours late. The outbound flight two weeks ago left three hours late and was diverted to Birmingham before flying to Zakynthos where the airport was closed. The aircraft landed at Corfu, where the passengers alleged their hotel was used by prostitutes.

55, agreed that only a few do. "It is a very strenuous life and we find that very few staff want to continue flying for anything like that long. A lot of the girls marry and have children, and others have a wide range of options in a career structure which gives experienced staff the chance of becoming pursers, cabin service directors and fleet directors," a spokesman said.

But trade unions, such as the newly created Cabin Crew '89, want a later retirement age written into all future contracts and argue that to force

Many senior executives of the corporation want the airport to expand as fast as possible to attract business to the rapidly expanding area.

But others fear that could lead to serious noise disturbance, reduce the value of commercial property near by and that the jet operations might not prove as economically successful as the airlines hope.

Mowlem, the developers, is delaying its planning application until further talks are held. It hopes to be able to increase the types of aircraft allowed in from three to eight by getting approval for the Fokker 50, ATR 42, De Havilland Dash 8 and Saab 340 propeller-driven aircraft, and the British Aerospace four-engined 146 jet.

● Boeing's latest 747-400 long-range jet will have to make a detour around Heathrow Airport after landing on certain runways because its wingspan is too big for some of the smaller taxiways.

Cumbria the curse of 'litter louts'

By John Young

"Litter louts" who discard their rubbish in public places should avoid Cumbria at all costs but can feel reasonably safe in pursuing their antisocial habits in London, Merseyside and the West Midlands.

A report by the Tidy Britain Group today shows that in 1987, the latest year for which the Home Office has statistics, Cumbria police brought 296 prosecutions for litter offences, more than 200 above the total for any other county. There were 278 convictions and Mr John Midgley, the group's regional director in the North-West, said he understood the number of prosecutions last year was 326.

In 1987 there were only 18 prosecutions in the whole of the area of London covered by the Metropolitan Police. There were 15 in Merseyside

and 23 in the West Midlands. Professor Graham Ashworth, the group's director general, said the differences indicated some of the difficulties of enforcing present legislation

and the differing priorities given by police forces to enforcing the Litter Act 1983.

"Present litter legislation obviously isn't working," he said. "Police forces find it

Cumbria	296	Gloucestershire	32
Derbyshire	88	Northfolk	32
Lancashire	88	Northumbria	28
South Yorkshire	88	Warwickshire	28
Gwent	85	Cleveland	26
West Mercia	83	Surrey	26
South Wales	82	Cheshire	24
Nottinghamshire	68	Humberdale	24
West Yorkshire	84	Avon and Somerset	23
Kent	50	Dorset	23
Devon and Cornwall	47	West Midlands	23
Hampshire	45	Wiltshire	22
North Yorkshire	44	North Wales	21
Hertfordshire	43	Durham	20
Thames Valley	41	Metropolitan	18
Essex	39	Suffolk	18
Leicestershire	38	Bedfordshire	17
Staffordshire	37	Merseyside	15
Lincolnshire	36	Dyfed - Pows	14
Sussex	36	Northamptonshire	12
Greater Manchester	35	Cambridgeshire	9

Ferry defies sabbatarian's wrath

By Kerry Gill

As the Protestant community of the Western Isles dutifully filed into their churches yesterday, the first Sunday ferry sailed from North Uist to Skye in defiance of sabbatarian observance.

The Lord's Day has been strictly observed by the majority of islanders throughout the ages, but yesterday the ferry company's chief executive, Mr Colin Paterson, said that the gods seemed to be on the company's side.

There were no portraits of doom as the £7 million 3,040-ton Hebridean Isles slipped from Lochmaddy pier under a clear blue sky and over the glassy sea.

She was delayed only a couple of minutes by the action of the Western Isles Council, which stopped the ferry operators, Caledonian MacBrayne, using the movable ramp which compensates for the ship's level when loading vehicles.

Instead, 14 cars and two vans were loaded by a side entrance from the pier.

Mr Paterson, who travelled on the ferry, said the council was being childish. "They locked it, but they did say we could use it if there was a long commercial vehicle. There is no logic in their position."

There was no demonstration by hardline sabbatarians who have pro-

tested vigorously at the plan. However, Caledonian MacBrayne did not have it all its own way. When the ferry arrived at Uig on Skye, it was greeted by two Englishwomen carrying a banner saying: "No Sunday ferries."

Mrs Wendy Macleod-Gifford, who recently moved to Uig from Oxfordshire, said: "A way of life is being destroyed. If the majority of the people who live here don't want Sunday sailings, their views should be respected."

As a member of the North Uist Pro Ferry Group played the bagpipes to celebrate their victory, Mr Paterson said: "I have said many times that I respect the views of the people who are opposed to Sunday sailings. But I consider that it is a matter of choice. Without a Sunday service there is no choice."

The community of Lochmaddy stayed silent yesterday in deference to the Sabbath. Hardly a soul stirred from the little whitewashed cottages, and the tourist information centre was closed as from the wee hours. Other islanders from further south, where the Roman Catholic influence tends to be greater, came to watch.

Mr Ian McIlwraith, proprietor of the Lochmaddy Hotel, defied local prejudice

and sailed on the ferry to register his freedom of action. Perhaps more significantly, he announced that from now he would open his bar on Sunday.

The ship carried 86 passengers compared to a high season capacity of 500.

One leading objector says that what many people believed was the breaking of the religious stranglehold on Sunday ferries from Lochmaddy had simply split the island's community.

The Rev Alex Murdoch MacLeod, a Free Presbyterian minister and member of the Lord's Day Observance Society, who spoke to *The Times* on Saturday night, said: "I think the feeling generally of people regarding the Lord's Day is that they don't wish to take part in that sort of thing (the demonstration) on the Sabbath. The Secretary of State for Scotland now has the ball in his court and it may be that wiser counsel may prevail and Mr Colin Paterson will see sense."

However, the sabbatarian influence in the Western Isles still holds good in the more northern islands of Lewis, Harris and the smaller isles. Mr Paterson said that he had no plans for the time being to introduce Sunday ferries to Stornoway on Lewis, or Tarbert on Harris.

Psychology 'can combat heart disease'

Psychologists could play an important role in the prevention of heart disease and other illnesses, according to an expert report (Thomson Prentice writes).

Dr Fraser Watts, of the Medical Research Council's applied psychology unit at Cambridge, says they could help to combat the risks of heart attack by working to reduce high blood pressure,

obesity, smoking and other hazards, and produce savings for the health service. His report documents a "quiet revolution" in which psychological methods are of growing value.

● High blood pressure could be a good thing for elderly people, a group of California doctors has found. The doctors, quoted in the *British Medical*

Journal, checked more than 2,000 men and women living in an upper middle-class retirement community who had had their blood pressures taken 10 years before, when they were 65 or older. They found the higher the blood pressure of a man the more likely he was to be still alive 10 years later.

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MacGregor's battle on EC farm reform saves £379m a year

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

Britain has saved more than £600 million in spending under the Common Agricultural Policy over the past two years.

In a remarkable turnaround ministers expect the savings on agricultural spending over the five years from 1988 to 1993 to amount to a huge £2.6 billion.

Figures to be published by the Ministry of Agriculture this week will show that after battles in Brussels to reform the CAP, Britain has saved £379 million in the past year.

The Public Expenditure White Paper estimate for 1988-89 was that Britain would spend £350 million on cereals support, £295 million on milk, £244 million on beef, £176 million on oilseeds, £228 million on sheep, £148 million on sugar and £111 million on other products — a total of £1,552 million.

In the event there have been savings over those totals of £171 million on milk, £155 million on cereals, £54 million on beef, £31 million on sugar, and £7 million on other products. Only sheep meat support, up £37 million over

the estimates and oilseed support, up £2 million, has exceeded the planning totals.

Overall expenditure has been cut from the planned £1,552 million to £1,173 million. Together with a £228 million saving in 1987-88, CAP costs have come down more than £600 million over two years.

The results are the achievement of Mr John MacGregor, the former Chief Secretary to the Treasury installed at the Ministry of Agriculture by Mrs Margaret Thatcher to fight the spending battles in Europe.

He now spends about a third of his time in the early part of the year in Brussels and other European capitals. Some of the savings have been due to external factors. Last year's drought in the United States raised world cereal prices, cutting the export refund costs on EC cereals taken out of intervention stores for world sales.

Bad weather in Britain last year resulted in a poor harvest. However, the rest is due to the reform: the figures show that CAP changes on milk and

beef are having an effect. Mr MacGregor will now be pressing for action on a new sheep meat regime after proposals from the European Commission last year ran into the ground.

Surpluses are coming down sharply. The butter and skimmed milk powder mountains have been virtually eliminated and beef and cereal intervention stocks are lower. However, ministers say they have simultaneously been able to get a better deal for British farmers.

They were penalized by up to 31 per cent by what they saw as unfair competition arrangements but, through green currency changes, that has been reduced to low single figures on most products.

Mr MacGregor last night confirmed that this week's figures would show a sharp cut in Britain's CAP spending.

He said: "It is good news for the taxpayer and good news for the consumer while there is good news on the green pound and on the co-responsibility levy for farmers whose incomes will benefit by £155 million this year."

Wonderland comes to Chelsea

By Alan Toogood
Horticulture Correspondent

Innovation is the theme of the seventy-sixth Chelsea Flower Show, which opens tomorrow in the grounds of the Royal Hospital.

Visitors will enter the great marquee between displays of historical roses from Roses du Temps Passe of Stafford, and modern varieties from Gregory's of Stapleford, Nottingham, which is showing the new deep yellow 'Sir Harry', named for Sir Harry Secombe.

Among new exhibits are columnar trees, ideal for small gardens, presented by a consortium of nurserymen, and produce from Guernsey, including the Babaco, a new exotic fruit. Other new displays include unusual palms and cycads, staged by the Palm Centre, of south-west London; plants for hanging baskets and tubs, by Peter Harrow, of Godalming, Surrey; and new annuals and bedding plants from Thompson and Morgan, of Ipswich, Suffolk.

To celebrate its diamond jubilee the Alpine Garden Society is creating an alpine garden to show the materials that can be used in their construction.

Opening arrangements: Tomorrow and Wednesday, 8am-8pm, private view for RHS members. Thursday, 8am-8pm, £14 ticket, £7 after 4pm. Friday, 8am-8pm, £10.

Tickets will be available at the showground on Thursday and Friday. No admission for children under five.



Mr Tony Lord checks details on the Torbay Borough Council display, Alice in Wonderland.

Kirk asks Masons to reconsider allegiance

The Church of Scotland has urged members who are Freemasons to "reconsider" their involvement with the order. After a heated two-hour debate, the church's ruling general assembly, meeting in Edinburgh on Saturday night, adopted a report on the issue from its panel on doctrine.

The report stopped short of declaring explicitly that church membership was incompatible with Freemasonry — but made it unmistakably clear that was its own view.

On theological grounds it criticized the Masons' "selective" use of the Bible. In addition, Freemasons' fellowship and charitable works, it said, could not justify a "deviation from the mainstream" of Christian doctrine.

However, several churchmen defended Freemasonry as being compatible with the church.

The Rev Hugh McKay, deputy grandmaster of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, said: "We who are Christian Masons have already made this decision as a living practical one. For myself, I can only say that had I found I could not face my Saviour from within the context of my Masonic involvement I would have thrown that involvement away years ago."

Whitehall Brief

Escaping back to two-tier DSS

But what will he have left to do? The question hung unasked at the end of the press conference Mr John Moore, the Secretary of State for Social Security, gave last week when he announced how far his department is to shrink when its work is farmed out to new executive agencies.

If a dynamic new chief executive is taking care of social benefits, and a super-manager is running computers, the secretary of state will surely be freed from the time-consuming business of visiting offices and worrying about Mrs Smith's pension. MPs' queries will be handled by the agency; ditto industrial relations.

The obvious thing for the liberated Mr Moore to do is make more speeches like the one he made a fortnight ago abolishing poverty, in other words to spend his time making new policy. And there the trouble starts.

One of the ideas behind *The Next Steps*, the grand plan for Whitehall reform which led to the creation of the social security agencies, was to escape from the class-conscious past in which Civil Servants divided sharply into hewers of wood ("executives") and architects ("administrators"). The idea was to create, in the big executive agencies, a path to the top for people blooded by hard management tasks and executing policy on the ground.

But what is emerging is the old dualism by another name. The 2,000 headquarters staff who will be left around Mr Moore when the reorganization is complete are, it seems, going to be the shapers of policy, the people who will fuss over the minister's speeches to the Centre for Policy Studies.

The speeches are crucial, since they give the executive agency its purpose. What is the point of making social security offices more "user-friendly" if the minister wants to stop people visiting them? If agitation for more social benefits is, as Mr Moore believes, motivated by envy and a dysfunctional intolerance of income inequality, the entire operation

of the benefits agency could be affected. In other words, the purpose for which the organization is being made efficient is set outside it, by the minister and his policy advisers, not by the agency's own managers.

It has to be said that there are some advocates of managerial reform in the Department of Social Security who are trying to stop that happening.

Miss Margaret Moodie, the Civil Service author of the original report on better service for benefits claimants that has led to the break-up, appears to believe that an efficient and self-confident benefits organization could get into the driving seat on policy, and push for more generosity towards benefits claimants.

The motives of the enthusiastic group around Mr Eric Caines, director of the Operational Strategy in the DSS, are geared to doing more not less for benefits recipients. They have cottoned on to the way in which agencies could increase the social security bill. One plank of the reform is to give claimants better information on what they are owed by the system through new technology: that could push up claims. Yet Mr Moore denied last week that agency officials will have any role in monitoring expenditure on social security, as opposed to spending on delivering it.

The tension between policy and delivery has if anything increased, thanks to this giant "next" step. Mr Moore's political instincts say social security should be a residual, confined only to the very poor, the underclass, those who have palpably failed to join the income mainstream. Yet the bravura new social security agency says something completely different: take pride in claiming and take pride in paying out claims.

Another unanswered question is whether, were he to make a similar speech in future, the social security secretary would consult his social security chief executive before making it.

David Walker

Newest grandmaster leads in tournament

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

Daniel King, Britain's most recent grandmaster, who was awarded his title two weeks ago, shares the lead after two rounds of the Watson Farley and Williams Grandmaster Tournament in the City of London.

Scores after two rounds are King (England), grandmaster Mihai Suba (England formerly Romania) and international master, Patrick Wolff (USA) all on 1½ points; international master William Watson (England), international master Matthew Sadler, who is aged 15, (England), international master Michael Adams (England), grandmaster Julian Hodgson (England), international master Paul Motwani (Scotland) and international master Colin McNab (Scotland), all on 1 point.

Grandmaster Bent Larsen and international master Keith Arkell (England) both ½ point with one adjourned

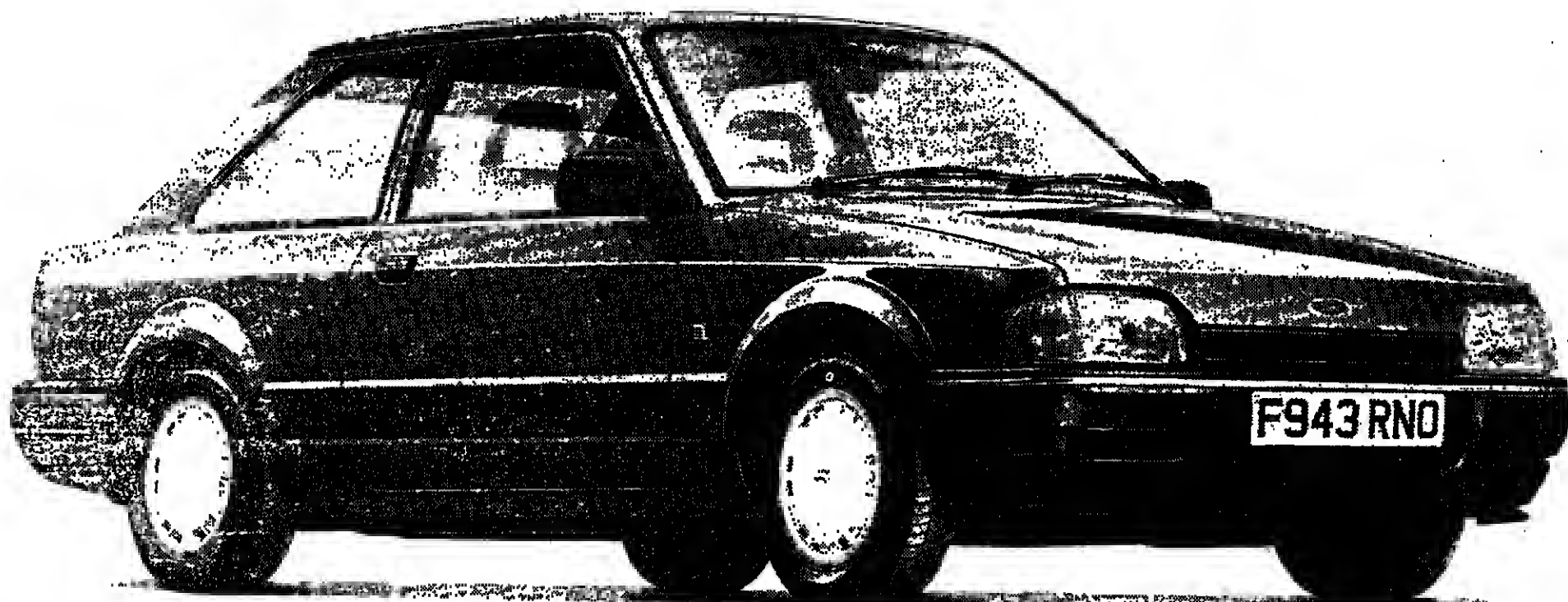
game against each other, and grandmaster Michael Wilder, the US champion, women's grandmaster Susan Arkell (England), and international master Nigel Davies (England), all on ½ point.

The results from unfinished games from round 1 are: Watson drew with Susan Arkell; Patrick Wolff drew with Matthew Sadler. The game between Larsen and Keith Arkell is still adjourned.

Round 2 results: Susan Arkell lost to King; Keith Arkell drew with Hodgson; McNab drew with Larsen; Mihai Suba drew with Paul Motwani; Michael Wilder lost to Patrick Wolff; Matthew Sadler drew with Nigel Davies and William Watson drew with Michael Adams.

The tournament, one of the strongest international grandmaster tournaments to be held in London in recent years, continues until June 1.

The Ford Drive for Value.



The Escort Bonus. You get three bonuses when you buy one.

The first bonus: A great car.

In the first place the Bonus is extremely good value.

It's actually based on the Escort Popular with a 1.3 litre engine. But in addition to all the Popular's standard equipment you also get special wheel trims and a choice of black, metallic strato silver, magenta or tasma blue paintwork.

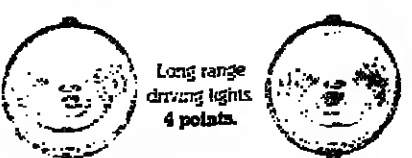
Yet the Bonus costs £273 less than the maximum retail price of the Popular 1.3.

And that's just the beginning.

The second bonus: A choice of free extras.

If you buy your Bonus and get it registered before 30th June, you can also take your pick from the selection of extras illustrated.

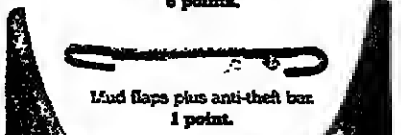
As you can see, each item has a points value, and you're allowed up to 10 points' worth absolutely free. For example, if you choose the spoiler, driving lights and side stripes, at Ford maximum retail prices you could be getting £200 worth of extras including fitting at no extra cost.



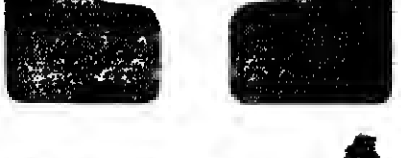
RS sports steering wheel. 4 points.



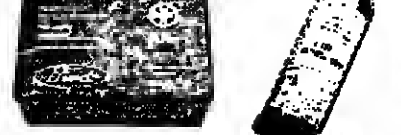
Tilting glass sunroof. 6 points.



Mud flaps plus anti-theft bar. 1 point.



First aid kit plus extinguisher. 1 point.



Rear spoiler. 5 points.



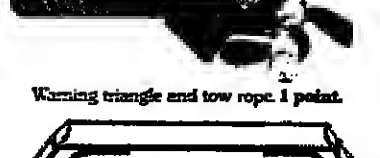
Rubber floor mats. 1 point.



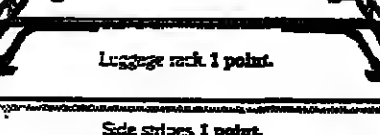
Wheel trims. 2 points.



Warning triangle and tow rope. 1 point.



Luggage rack. 1 point.



Side stripes. 1 point.



Foglights. 4 points.

The third bonus: Low rate finance.

The Bonus is also available on low rate finance. And from April 7th to June 15th, Ford Credit have reduced interest rates on all three finance plans by 1%.

As you can see from the table below there are three plans to choose from, the idea being that the more you deposit the less interest you pay.

It's all part of a series of Ford Drive for Value programmes designed to give you better value for money than ever in 1989.

For more details, you can call the Ford Information Service free on 0800 01 01 12. Or, better still, call in and see your Ford dealer.

Payments start at £134.24 per month.

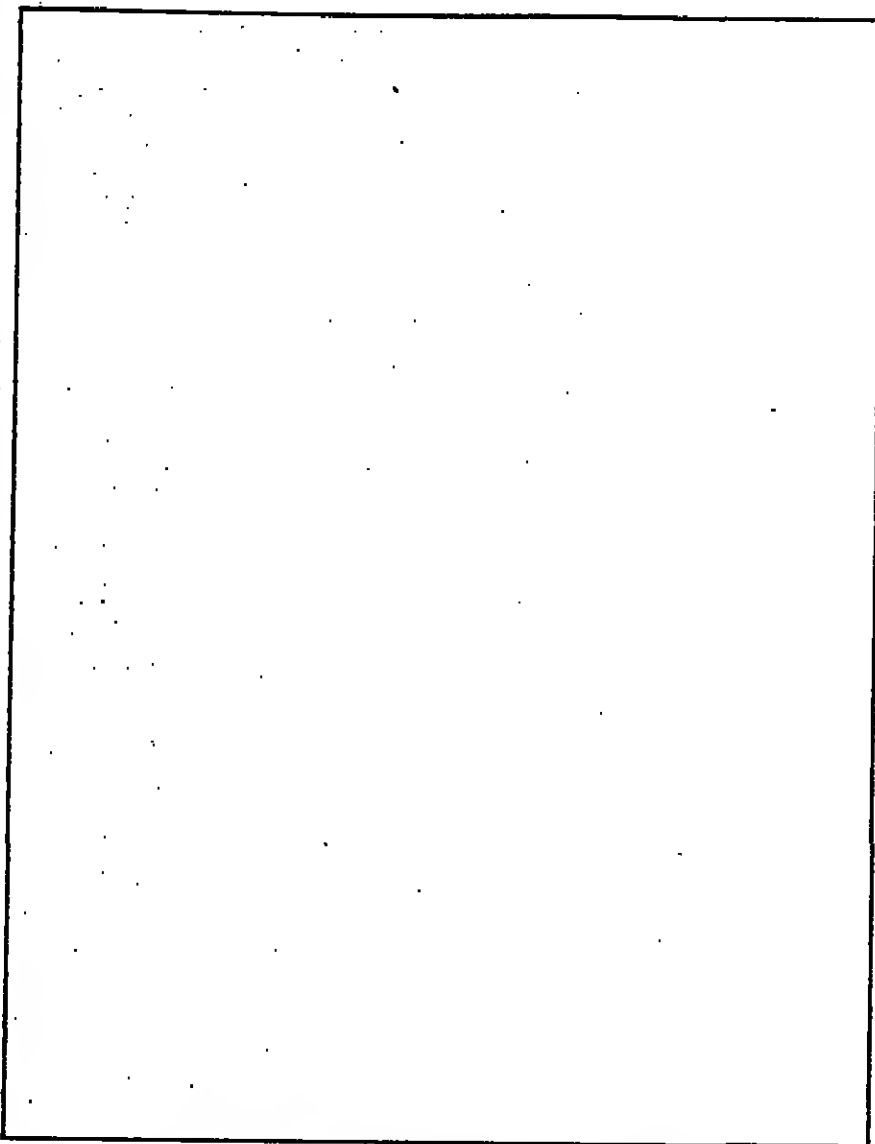
Cash Price (inc. delivery)	£13,424.00
Escort Bonus 1300	£2,000.00
2.9% (5.6% APR)	
Initial Payment (Minimum 50%)	£6,712.00
24 Monthly Payments of	£233.13
Charge for Credit	£183.12
Total Credit Price	£7,128.12
5.9% (11.4% APR)	
Initial Payment (Minimum 20%)	£2,684.80
36 Monthly Payments of	£295.08
Charge for Credit	£228.04
Total Credit Price	£3,137.92
6.9% (13.2% APR)	
Initial Payment (Minimum 20%)	£2,684.80
48 Monthly Payments of	£234.24
Charge for Credit	£333.92
Total Credit Price	£3,253.92

This Low Rate Finance Plan is subject to credit approval and applies to Escort Bonus cars registered between April 7th and June 15th 1989 and which are subject to Conditional Sale Agreements arranged by participating Ford dealers and underwritten by Ford Motor Credit Company Limited. The Drive, Brierwood, Essex CM3 3AR. Applicants must be over 18 years of age and credit worthy. Please note various factory fitted options and Ford's optional warranty (Extra Cover or Extra Cover Plus) are available at extra cost. Maximum retail prices as at March 16th 1989 including delivery. Delivery is to Dealer premises with exception of Channel Islands and Isle of Wight when a further charge will be made.

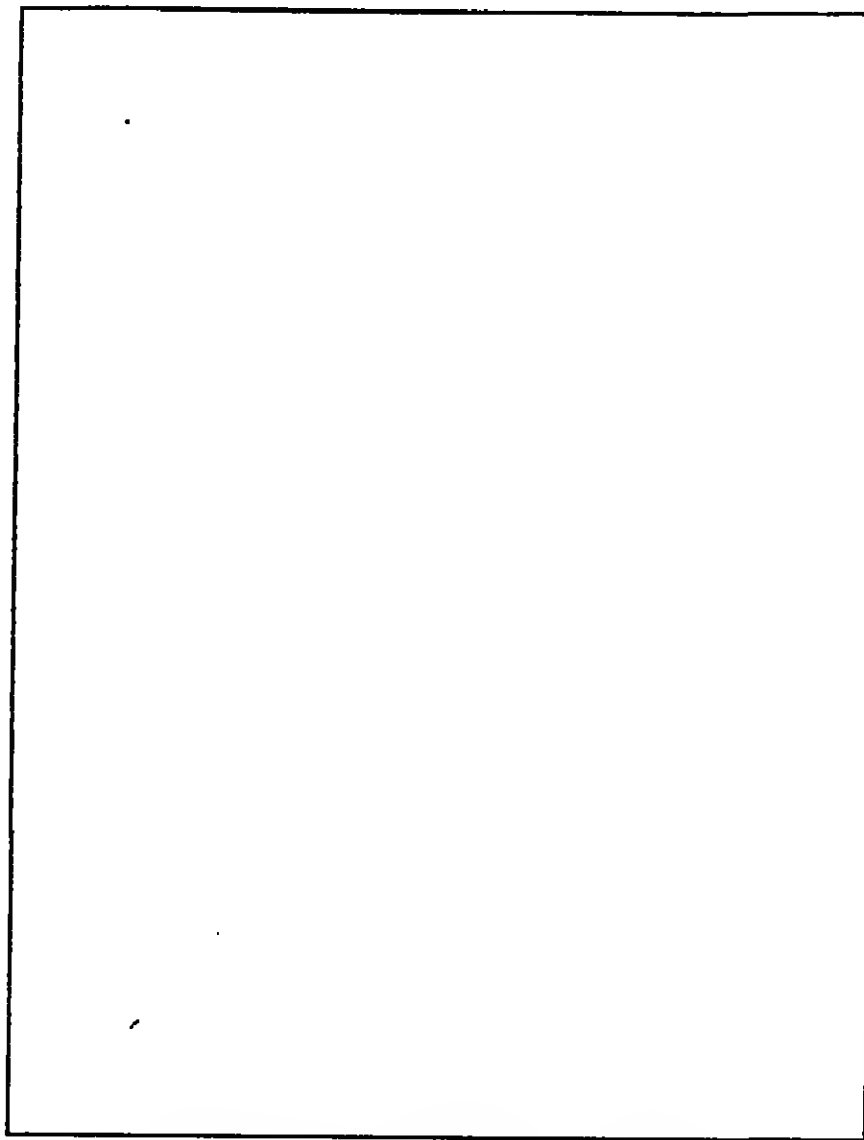


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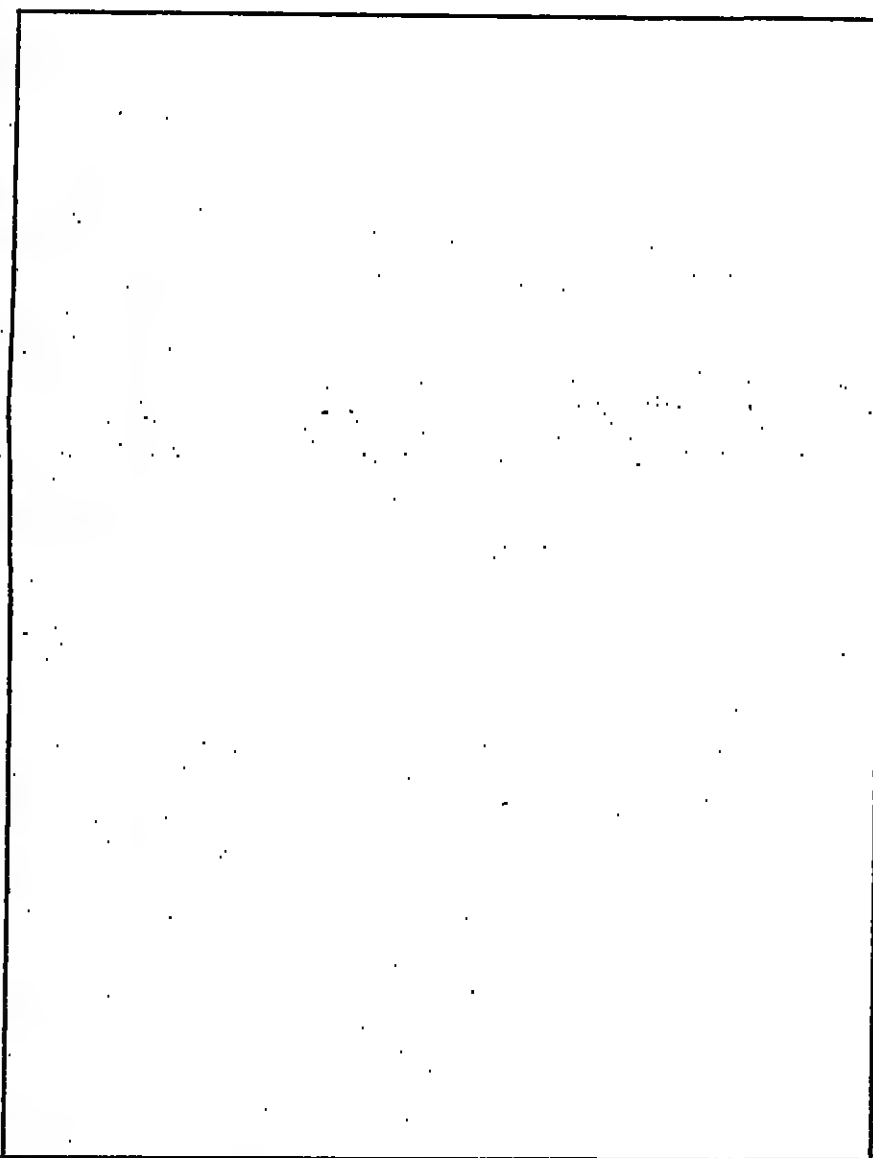
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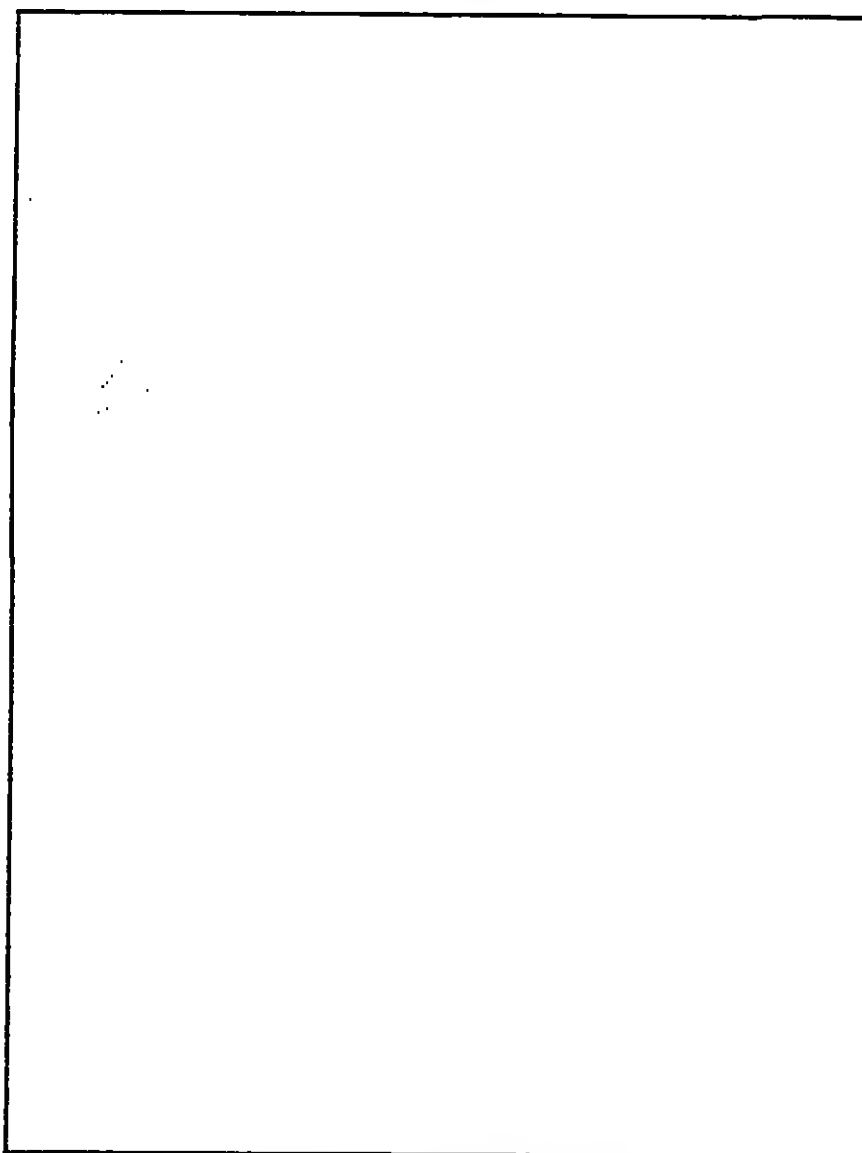
Atmospheric Gases in all 5 continents.



Anaesthetic Pharmaceuticals used worldwide.



Speciality Gases in 65 countries.



High Vacuums around the globe.

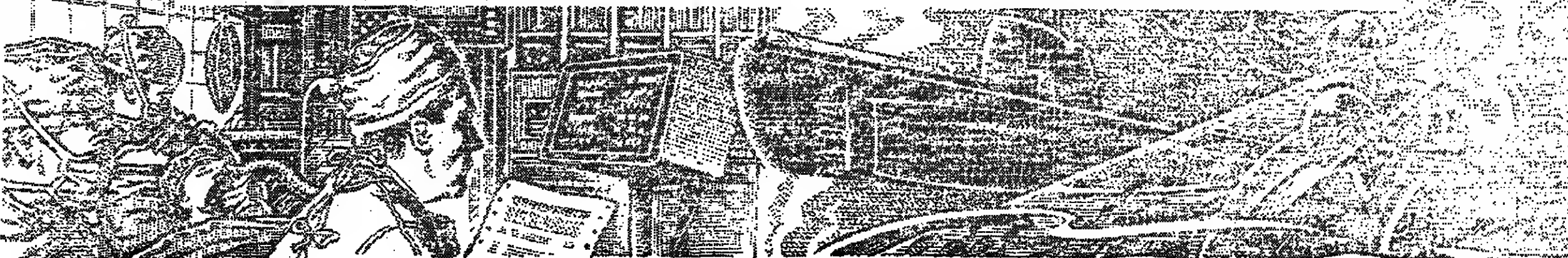
Is this what they mean by invisible earnings?

"What you can't see can't hurt you." Don't say that to the West Germans. We're now the leading supplier of special gases to their megabit semi-conductor industry. Don't say it in America either: 3 out of 4 general anaesthetics given

there use our pharmaceuticals. Whilst the Land of the Rising Sun has risen to become our 3rd largest market. Our total turnover in things you can't see was £1.7 billion last year. Which must explain what our British investors see in us.

THE BOC GROUP

MORE THAN JUST A BRITISH OXYGEN COMPANY.



Home improvements surge to £14bn as owners stay put

By Christopher Warman
Property Correspondent

Homeowners will spend an estimated £14 billion this year on home improvements, much of it done as an alternative to moving house, which is proving unpopular because of high interest rates, the Woolwich Building Society says in a survey.

That represents an increase on the £12 billion spent last year. The Woolwich itself, which last year lent more than £250 million for home improvements to 50,000 borrowers (an average of more than £5,000 each), reports a 20 per cent increase in lending this year.

"The house sales market is quite buoyant in the North, but slow in the South, and it would appear that a lot of people have decided to spend money on keeping their property in good condition and making improvements rather than trying to sell it," the Woolwich commented.

The estimated total, shared between the 14 million private households in Britain, covers anything from a pot of paint to the building of an extension, and the most popular improvements are double glazing or new windows, followed by new kitchens, bathrooms, central heating, extensions and loft conversions.

Figures produced by the Building Societies' Association show that 36 per cent of owner occupiers have installed double glazing since 1981, 35 per cent have put in a new kitchen, 24 per cent a new bathroom

A Home Office minister has kept his promise to help an inner-city housing estate where a couple died in a fire after being trapped behind a steel security grille (Michael McCarthy writes). They had installed it on their front door to protect their maisonette from burglary. Mr John Patten, Minister of State, visited the Grantham Road estate in Brixton, south-west London, last January after the deaths of Mr Peter Johnson and his wife, Audrey. After leaders of the tenants' association told Mr Patten that a number of residents had fitted the grilles because they feared burglary in their three open-access tower blocks, and that they had unsuccessfully appealed to Lambeth council for comprehensive security improvements, the minister said he would try to help and promised he would not forget them. The Government is now to provide £1.5 million for a complete "concierge" security system for the estate. It will include porters, entry phones and a closed-circuit

and 20 per cent have installed central heating. Some of those improvements are better value for money than others, the Woolwich says.

Central heating is the most worthwhile, usually recouping the money spent, while extensions will recoup most of the cost, particularly any improvements that increase the floor area, and have been properly planned and built.

Kitchen and bathroom refits usually only recoup about two-thirds of their cost, while double glazing will recoup half the cost at best.

The Woolwich offers three rules for successful home improvements: keep all improvements in character; do not add extra facilities at the expense of others; and do not over-improve. The society issues a

warning against adding mock-Tudor beams to the interior of a modern home, and says that stone-cladding on the exterior may actually reduce the value of a property by several thousand pounds, both on aesthetic grounds and because of suspicions about the condition of the hidden brickwork.

Extra facilities such as a second bathroom should not usually be added if that means giving up a bedroom or turning a good-sized bedroom into little more than a bathroom. Buyers will normally prefer a three-bedroom house with one bathroom to a two-bedroom, two-bathroom home.

Similarly, the Woolwich says, the "installation of an Olympic-size swimming pool in a suburban back garden is unlikely to see a return on the investment".

television system for each of the 252 maisonettes. The money will be paid through the Department of the Environment's estate action programme if Lambeth council finds the remaining £300,000 needed for the scheme. The council, which is likely to find the money from its current budget, will also provide new security doors at a cost of more than £500,000. During his visit, Mr Patten, who was in charge of inner-city policy before moving to the Home Office, met Mr David Hirst, chairman of the tenants' association, and his deputy, Miss Joyce Hopper. They went to the Home Office and met Mr David Trippier, Under-Secretary of State at the Department of the Environment, now in charge of inner cities. Mr Hirst and Miss Hopper were told if Lambeth council applied for government funding for an estate security system, money would be made available. Improvement work is likely to start this year. New council-supplied front doors will replace those with steel grilles.

Meanwhile, over the next 12 years, about three million extra dwellings are going to be needed to accommodate the likely increase in the number of households in England and Wales, according to a report issued today by the National Housing Forum (David Walker writes).

Short of a huge transfer of population from south to north, that increase will probably lead to mounting homelessness and overcrowding, and a growth in the number of people living in other people's households.

The National Housing Forum, representing charities, architects, town planners and local authorities, released the report, by academics at the University of Birmingham, to coincide with the National Housing Week starting today. Basing itself

on calculations of the number of "concealed households" — single people and families living with others but wishing to set up on their own — the report estimates that by 2001 there will be more than 22 million potential households, three million above the figure for 1986 based on census data.

Additional spending, in public and private sectors, is going to be needed to keep existing dwellings in an adequate state of repair. The report says that some demolition and replacement of local authorities buildings is also going to be necessary.

The report calculates there will be some increase in private renting, because of recent changes in the law, but at rents of more than £250 a month private lettings will only be available to affluent people.

Meanwhile, large investment is going to be needed to remedy the estimated one million dwellings, mainly in the private rented sector, that are technically unfit for human habitation.

Such dwellings show a concentration of the old, ethnic minorities and the unemployed.

According to the study, new house-building will not solve the problem unless the Government addresses the question of how poorer people can afford either to rent or buy.

Housing Need in the 1990s (National Housing Forum, 175 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8UP).

BT told it employs 75,000 too many staff

By Pearce Wright

British Telecom has at least 75,000 more staff than its network size warrants and is not providing the cheaper and less regulated service promised on privatization, the Institute of Economic Affairs says in a report today.

The institute calls for a "fresh political initiative" by the Government to create more effective competition by licensing new telephone companies.

It says Mercury Communications, created to break the monopoly in telecommunications, "provides an insufficient challenge to BT on price, quality of service and range of customers served".

The authors of the report, Professor Michael Beesley, of the London Business School, and Mr Bruce Laidlaw, a consultant, say the government decision to replace a monopoly by a duopoly will mean that "Mercury will grow faster than BT but not so fast as to put at risk BT's profits growth".

They claim the present approach infects and limits the growth of other industries, particularly cable television and electronic manufacture. Much more competition could exist within the industry. A wider range of small local or regional companies should be allowed to compete for business and residential customers.

The report also says that Ofel, the consumer watchdog organization for telecommunications, should take over responsibility for licensing BT and other companies from the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry. BT's prices should continue to be controlled until a competitive market structure emerges.

Firms with their own telephone and data networks should be allowed more ready access to BT's cable and microwave networks.

British Telecom is criticized for hampering expansion of Mercury by impeding its connections to BT networks.

The report says: "Some 80 per cent of the connections requested by Mercury to date have been delayed by BT beyond the time allowed for them. BT rules have effectively prevented half the telephone customers in the country from accessing Mercury."

The Future of Telecommunications (Institute of Economic Affairs, £5.50).

Examiners in fight for non-GCSE maths tests

By David Tytler, Education Editor

Battle lines have been drawn between the school examining boards and the new government body set up to regulate them and to reduce the number of examinations.

The Associated Examining Board, one of the country's largest, is today challenging the recommendation of the Schools Examinations and Assessment Council that non-GCSE tests in arithmetic should no longer be available for pupils up to the age of 16 in state schools.

Mr John Day, secretary general of the board, said: "The removal of all arithmetical qualifications by the Government would be a serious disservice to all our schools."

Mr Day has written to Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, asking him to refuse to endorse the recommendation that the tests are dropped after July next year.

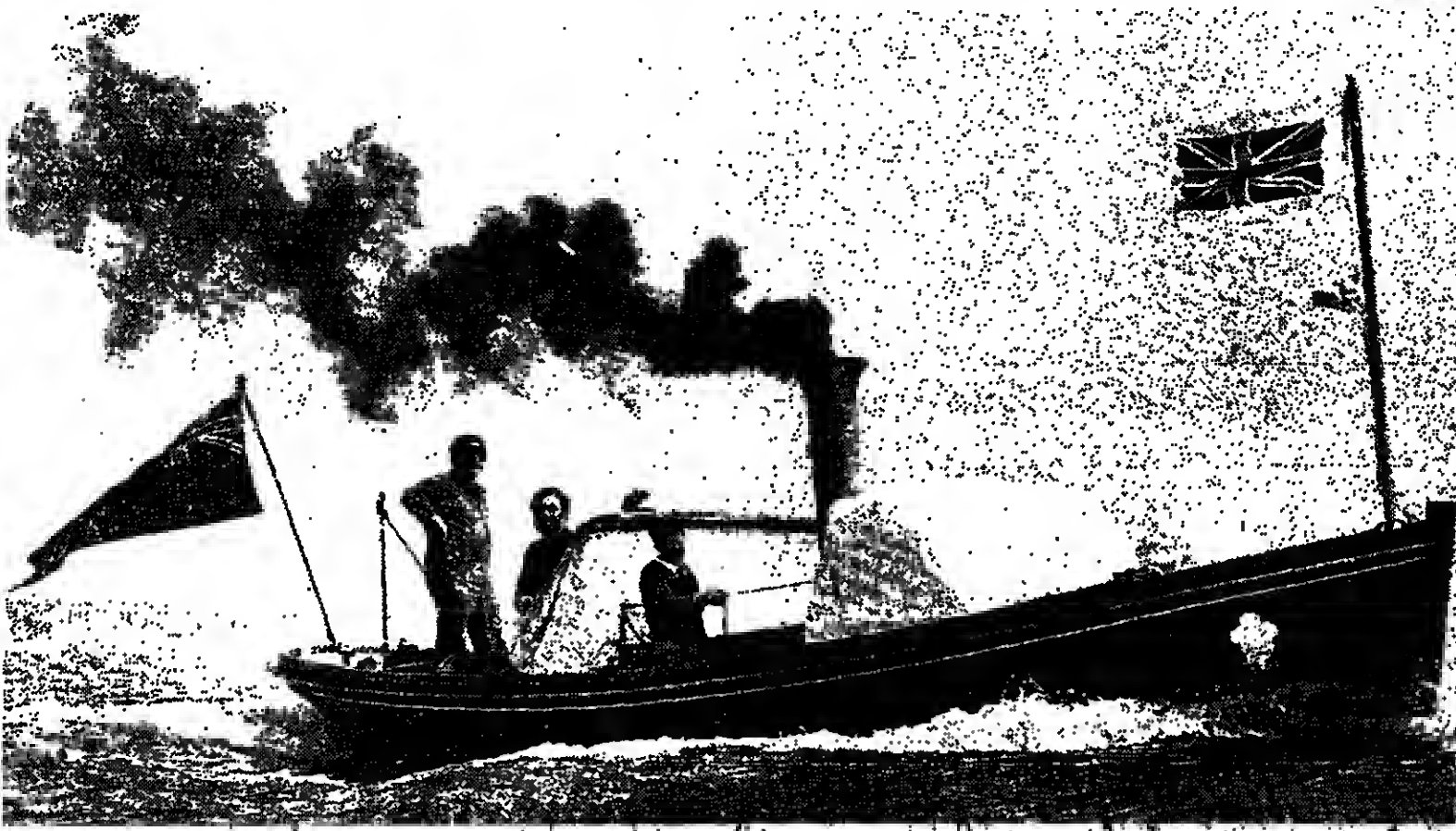
Mr Day says that the tests, set by 14,500 students last June, were introduced at the request of employers, who wanted a "specific and objective assessment of arithmetical skills".

He adds: "Employers point out that there are frequently deficiencies in the arithmetical abilities generally, even those with O level, CSE or GCSE qualifications."

"The board is firmly of the view that the council is mis-

Steam up for launch with a royal past

MARK PEPPER



Full steam ahead on the Solent for the Osborne, a 31 ft steam launch that served as a cutter for the royal yacht Osborne. It was also ship's boat for the royal yachts Alexandra and the Victoria and Albert. Built at Cowes in 1896, it is owned by Mr Anthony Spencer, of Lynton, Hampshire, who took eight years to restore the vessel. It was taking part in a rally at Port Solent, Hampshire, on Saturday, organized by the Steam Boat Association of Great Britain.

Motor trade imports reach record £1.65bn

By Kevin Eason
Motoring Correspondent

The motor industry has delivered a crushing blow to the Government's hopes of closing the trade gap by disclosing a new record deficit for the first quarter of 1989.

Figures from the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders show that the overall gap between imports and exports in the motor trade soared by 24 per cent to £1.65 billion in the three months to March. That compares with the £1.3 billion deficit in the same period of 1988.

News that Britain's biggest single manufacturing industry is on course to sink deeper into the red this year will come as cold comfort to Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer. His imposition of higher interest rates has done little to slow new car sales, the principal problem which boosted the motor industry trade gap to more

than £6 billion last year as sales reached a record 2.22 million.

Sales are already up 9.5 per cent this year but have only succeeded in sucking in huge numbers of imports to supply the demand from buyers. Car imports reached £1.8 billion in the first quarter — 19 per cent up over last year — while the deficit in the car trade at £1.22 billion accounted for 74 per cent of the overall industry losses.

Most of the gap is with other European Community countries, particularly West Germany, which in 1988 accounted for 44 per cent or £2.7 billion of the total motor industry deficit on cars.

That position looks unlikely to change this year, the society says, with key multi-national companies based in Britain, such as Ford and Vauxhall, continuing to supply models from Continental factories. Ford, for example, sold 583,790 cars in the UK last

year but manufactured only 375,542 at its two main British plants, bringing in models from Belgium and West Germany.

By contrast, Britain exported 83,810 cars against imports of 347,010 in the first quarter. Although the value of car exports was improved significantly with a 23 per cent increase, they were worth just £600 million.

There was no relief in any other sector as overall first quarter imports of all motor industry products — including vans, trucks and components — rose 24 per cent to £3.7 billion. Total exports were up 22 per cent to about £2 billion.

Exports of light commercial vehicles jumped 112 per cent but only to £60 million, outweighed by imports worth £140 million, an increase of 48 per cent. Imports of commercial vehicles over three tonnes reached £300 million leading to an overall

deficit of £200 million. The deficit in parts and accessories was £270 million.

Mr Keith Hayes, the society's economics adviser, says: "The current strength of the UK market will ensure that the volume of imports remains strong. There is little prospect, therefore, of a reduction in the motor industry trade deficit in 1989."

Meanwhile, British car exporters face tougher regulations in their most lucrative market, the United States.

The Bush administration is expected to back tougher regulations on fuel economy, which could levy heavy tax penalties on Jaguar and Range Rover models, forcing them to raise prices at a time when competition between the European luxury manufacturers is tougher.

Land Rover said last night: "We will be working flat out to find new ways of improving fuel economy."

School budget scheme 'will cost 10,000 jobs'

By Sam Kiley, Higher Education Reporter

Government plans to let schools control their own budgets will lead to the loss of nearly 10,000 teaching jobs, the second biggest teachers' union said yesterday.

Mr Fred Smithies, general secretary of the National Association of School Masters/Union of Women Teachers, accused local authorities of hiding the facts behind their plans to give schools greater autonomy.

He said that only seven of the 20 local education authority schemes the union had analysed gave the number of job losses that would result from the funding change.

The union survey says that Barnsley, South Yorkshire, stands to lose 63 teachers while 49 will go in Shropshire, 75 in Sefton, 76 in Somerset, 81 in Newcastle, and 20 in the

Ile of Wight. Worst affected will be Walsall, where the union claims 112 teachers will be dismissed.

The union says that when the figures from those seven areas are projected against the school budgets of the 55 authorities who have sent their schemes to it, the loss of teachers in England and Wales would be 9,910.

There are 104 authorities in England and Wales who have until July to submit plans to devolve financial power for most of the running of schools to boards of governors.

The union said that teacher losses would occur because local authorities had to use the same formula for calculating the level of funding for each school which did not take into account the wage differentials between them.

More 'sleeping policeman' will curb speeding

By Kevin Eason
Motoring Correspondent

Local authorities are to be given more powers to use road humps to slow speeding traffic through towns and cities.

Mr Peter Bottomley, Minister for Roads and Traffic, will later this week announce new measures to reduce Britain's annual toll of 1,700 pedestrian deaths.

Department of Transport experts believe that drivers using a rolling foot through side streets are one of the key factors in causing accidents and have recommended a crackdown on speeding. Extra policing may be too

costly, but "sleeping policeman" — as road humps are nicknamed — are known to be a cheap and effective way of forcing motorists to slow down. The department is expected to amend regulations to allow local authorities to use humps more extensively.

Mr Bottomley says that the use of road humps will be "a further important step in civilizing the motor car".

Major roadworks until next Monday include:

London and South-east
M25 Surrey: Contraflow jns 11-13 (Chertsey/Staines), three lanes each direction.

Midlands and East Anglia
M1 Nottingham: Contraflow jns 24-25 (A6/A52 Derby).
M42 Warwick: Single-line traffic east-bound jns 3-4 (Redditch/A34 Stratford), 0930-1630.

Wales and West
M48 Cardiff: Lane closures on both carriageways jns 1-4 (Denham/Beaconsfield).
M3 Hants: Lane restrictions both directions jns 5-6 (Hook/Basingstoke).
M2 Kent: Off-peak lane closures London-bound jns 3-4 (Gillingham/Chatham).
A20 Kent: Contraflow jns 11-12 (Hythe/Cheriton). One lane running coast-bound and two lanes London-bound.
M11 Essex: Contraflow jns 5-6 (Loughborough/M25).

North
M6 Cheshire: Contraflow jns 16-17 (A500/Standish).
M64 Gr Manchester: Lane closures southbound jn 3 (A666) and Worley interchange (M62).
M63 Gr Manchester: Contraflow jns 2-6 (Baron/A6144M). Single-line traffic on north-bound entry slip at jn 9.
M62 Humber: Single-line traffic in both directions jns 36-37 (Goole/Howden).
A101 S York: Contraflow between A635 at Marr and A630 at Sporthrough for resurfacing. Co Durham: Restrictions between Tees Bridge and county boundary.

Scotland
M73 Strathclyde: Outside lane closures in both directions jns 1-2 (M74/M8).
M74 Strathclyde: Contraflow at jn 8 (Kilmarnock): south-bound entry and exit slips closed.
M8 Strathclyde: east-bound exit slip road closed at jn 13 (Dennistoun).
M90 Fife: Lane restrictions jns 3-4 (A907/Kelty).
Information by AA Roadwatch

Drive for microchip safety

Britain is leading an international drive to combat the growing menace of microchips behaving unpredictably and injuring or even killing humans (Robert Matthews writes).

A British-led committee of experts on so-called "safety-critical software" is about to bring out an international standard on the design of computer programs that have a direct impact on safety.

With so many activities dependent on microchips, concern has been growing over the possibility that faulty manufacture or programming of microprocessors could result in serious malfunctions.

A military contractor in the US is being sued by the wife of an air force test pilot killed when his plane plunged out of the sky, allegedly because of the misprogramming of a microchip. In Britain, a manufacturer of a paper guillotine is being sued over an alleged incident of misprogramming that injured a worker.

Next month, two working parties of the International Electrotechnical Commission, both chaired by British scientists, will issue world-wide standards to tackle hazards.

Experts say, however, that it is impractical to attempt to prove that a computer-controlled system will never misbehave.

Briton rediscovers Nazi formula to replace nickel

By Tony Dawe

A secret formula devised by Hermann Goering, Hitler's deputy, to help to keep the Luftwaffe flying during the Second World War has been rediscovered by a former RAF engineer and will be used to fight off his company's foreign competitors.

The formula, for a remarkable steel alloy used in German fighter aircraft engines, was found after relentless detective work by Mr Dan Taylor, who now runs the Auto Alloys group in the East Midlands.

He began his search after the price of nickel, which has increased five fold in the past two years, threatened the viability of his foundry company, which supplies castings with a high nickel content for the motor industry.

By refining the formula, he claims to have produced superior castings

using nitrogen carried in manganese to replace the nickel. He has applied for international patents for the process and will unveil it this week at Europe's biggest foundry exhibition at Dusseldorf, West Germany.

"It is an exciting discovery," he told *The Times* yesterday. "Imagine replacing a substance which has become a near-precious metal because of its price with a gas which costs nothing." He added that the new alloy, which he has called "Mean" steel (standing for manganese enhanced austenitic nitrogen steel), has stood up to tests under extreme heat and stress.

"Once we have completed the development and proved it, we hope to sell the process for manufacture under licence around the world," Mr Taylor said. "We shall be talking

about the process to Americans, Australians and Russians among others at Dusseldorf."

Mr Taylor had feared that his contract with Garrett Automotive of Skelmersdale, Lancashire, part of the American Allied Signal group, the world's largest producer of turbochargers, would suffer as the price of nickel rose from £2,400 a tonne two years ago to £11,000 earlier this year.

The company was struggling to fight off Japanese competitors who had stockpiled nickel and others who were prepared to pare profits to win orders.

Mr Taylor, aged 54, remembered reading that Goering's huge steel works in Germany had found an alternative to nickel. He had bought his home near Matlock, Derbyshire, from a former president of the

Institute of British Foundrymen and the institute's library had come with the house. In a digest of research carried out during the war, he found references to German studies on the use of small amounts of nitrogen as a substitute for nickel in making certain steels.

Nitrogen had previously been thought detrimental to steel but one study claimed to have found "that a high-chromium steel could be produced by the introduction of nitrogen, using very little nickel, provided that the carbon was less than 0.1 per cent".

The report said that "tests of these nitrogen-bearing, low-nickel, high-chromium steels produced on an industrial scale proved that the steel had a remarkably high elastic limit, could be easily worked and had good welding and deep-drawing prop-

erties". Goering, who was commander-in-chief of the German air force, ordered scientists at his works to develop the steels to make vital components for aircraft engines.

The new components were discovered by British scientists when Lord Beaverbrook, Britain's minister of aircraft production during the war, ordered a team to examine captured enemy aircraft. When the Goering works were dismantled after the war, production of the new steels stopped and the formula disappeared.

Mr Taylor said yesterday: "I would be delighted to meet a survivor of the Goering works involved on that secret project and would offer him an expenses-paid trip from anywhere in the world to come and talk to me about his wartime research."

Methodists to review stand on gambling

By Clifford Langley, Religious Affairs Editor

The Methodist Church is to be urged to modify its condemnation of all forms of gambling, including Stock Exchange speculation.

A report to be discussed at the Methodist Conference next month argues it should be discouraged rather than forbidden, saying: "It is clear that gambling remains a practice which the church will continue to regard with distaste."

The social conditions of the late nineteenth century, when the Methodist tradition against gambling was established, are no longer relevant, and gambling is no longer a significant threat to the liveli-

hood of the working class, the report says.

It was commissioned as a revision of the church's 1936 policy statement, which banned all forms of gambling from Methodist premises, and declared it incompatible with the Christian ethic of the love of one's neighbour.

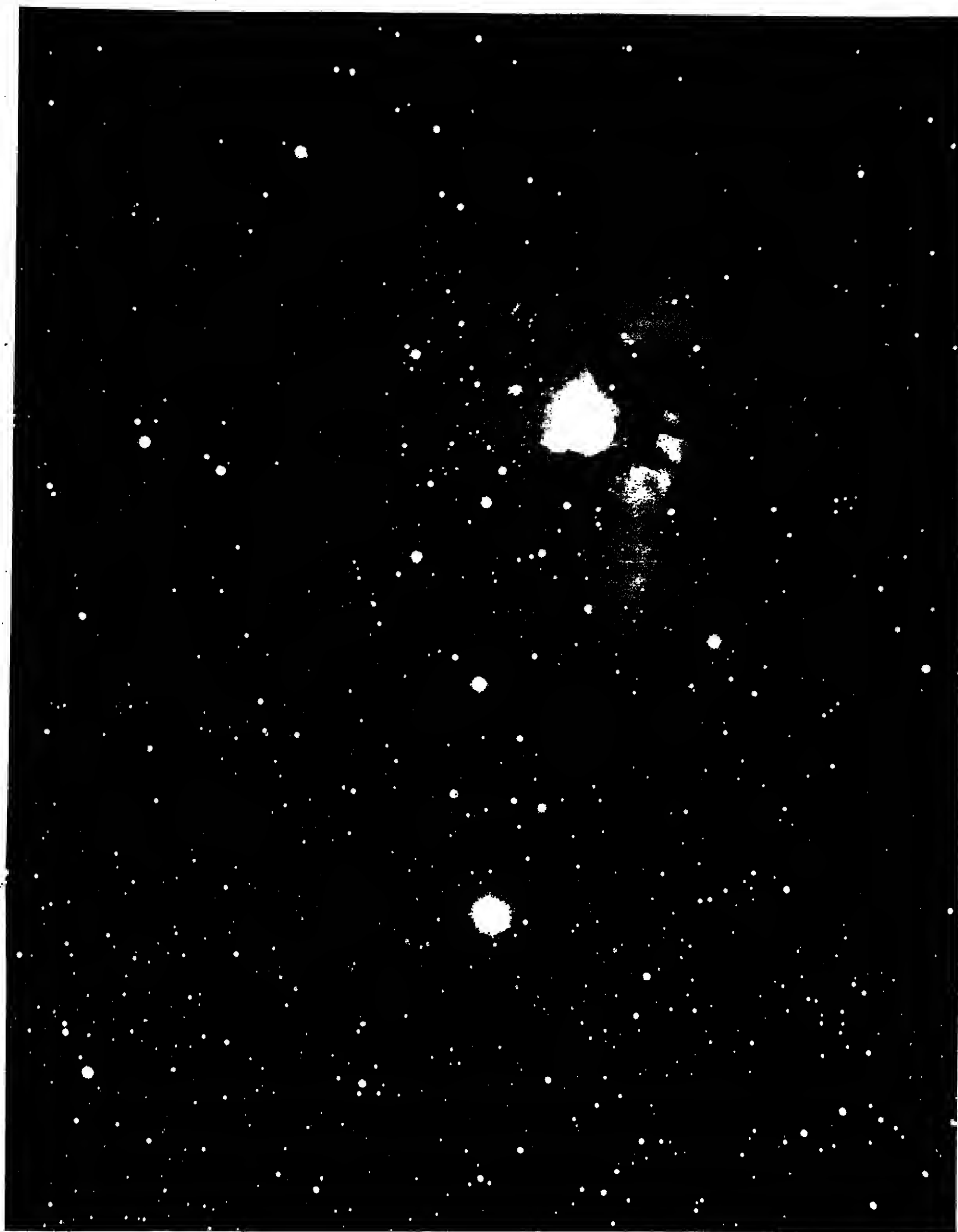
The report, by the division of social responsibility of the Methodist Conference, says the most common motive for minor gambling is entertainment rather than a desire to get rich, and losses are usually regarded by gamblers as the price of that entertainment.

BT told it
employs
5,000 too
many staff

By Philip Martin

Drive in
microchip
sales

to review
gambling



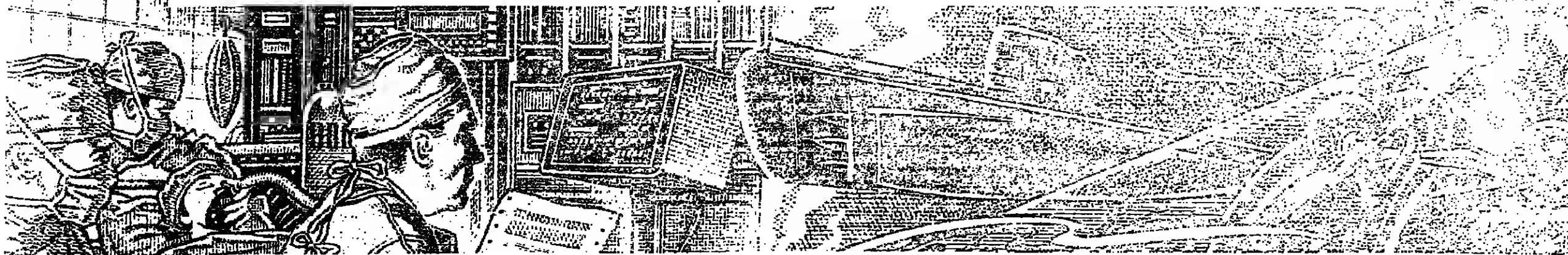
One place in the universe has the perfect vacuum. Crawley.

Strange but true. The scientists at our high vacuum laboratory in deepest Sussex can do what deep space can't. They can create the most perfect usable vacuum known to man. A feat that has involved us in every-

thing from microchip manufacture to aerospace technology. In fact, on average we visit the Patent Office once a week. But then at BOC our mission has always been to boldly go where no gases company has gone before.

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TURMOIL IN CHINA: COMMUNIST GIANT REELS UNDER HISTORIC CONFRONTATION

Provincial protesters press for Deng and Li to go

JAMES MORGAN

Demonstrations in provincial Chinese capitals grew more pointed yesterday, with protesters calling for the removal of Mr Deng Xiaoping and Mr Li Peng, the Premier, who imposed martial law in Peking on Saturday.

Students chanting "Li Peng resign" staged another mass protest in Shanghai yesterday, ignoring local government warnings that their demonstrations were pushing China's biggest city towards turmoil. More than 100,000 students and onlookers paced the Bund, the waterfront boulevard in Shanghai, for the third day running, denouncing Mr Li's decision to impose martial law in Peking in order to suppress student unrest there. "Impeach Li Peng" read one banner.

A hunger strike by 300 students outside Communist Party and local government headquarters ended overnight with the protesters boarding buses and ambulances for hospital treatment and to return home, witnesses said. No confrontations with the police were reported, and it was not clear if the decision to halt the hunger strike was

voluntary, the witnesses said. The Shanghai authorities said that, if there were no change soon, economic losses would become serious and there would be turmoil which would bring greater hardship to households.

In Nanking, the capital of the central province of Jiangsu, protesters regrouped yesterday and shouted for Mr Li and Mr Deng to step down, according to a European student in the city.

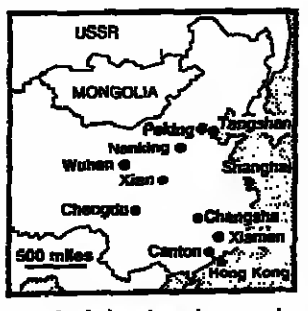
Hundreds of thousands of people had taken to the streets on Saturday after Mr Li's televised speech saying that there was anarchy in the country, she said. They filled the central Gulou and Xinjiekou squares and adjoining streets and marched between them all night.

Officials in Nanking could not be reached for comment.

As rumours grew that some student hunger strikers in the capital had died and that martial law might also be imposed in Nanking, large posters appeared in the city urging support for the movement in Peking. The staff at the Jinling Hotel, the biggest in Nanking, hung a banner

outside the hotel saying they supported the student action. Some 200 students in Nanking have been on a hunger strike in support of the more than 3,000 hunger strikers in Peking, according to the European student.

In Changsha, capital of the central Hunan province, anti-government protests intensified yesterday as thousands of students staged a



hunger strike, a board said "Day 3, 121 collapsed".

He added that seven among those who had collapsed were reportedly workers. More teachers and workers were taking up banners to participate in relay marches organized by an autonomous student group, he said.

On Saturday, workers protesting the hunger strikers had succeeded in pushing away uniformed soldiers who tried to break up the protest, a foreigner in Changsha said.

North-bound train tickets were not being sold, he added. In Xian, the former Tang Dynasty capital in Shaanxi province known for its underground terracotta army, more than 10,000 students demonstrated yesterday on Xinhua Square, a Chinese teacher at the Foreign Languages Institute said.

They shouted "Li Peng step down" and "We support the students in Peking".

About 300 students continued a hunger strike in Xian on Saturday.

Sources in Canton, the thriving southern metropolis, said that about 1,000 univer-

sity students staged a rally yesterday outside the provincial government office in support of their Peking counterparts. They chanted slogans including "The Peking student movement is a patriotic movement" and "Li Peng is wrong".

Provincial radio and television repeatedly broadcast announcements of the curfew and martial law imposed on Saturday in Peking, the sources said.

In the central city of Wuhan, police had restored road traffic on the Yangtze river bridge, which had been blocked by student demonstrators since last week, foreign students there said yesterday. In his speech on Saturday, Mr Li had cited the blocking of the bridge in the capital of Hubei province as a sign of the seriousness of the unrest.

In the southern port city of Xiamen, more than 1,000 students and workers demonstrated in the city and others at the university on Saturday, foreign sources said. Protesters also collected signatures to support Mr Zhao Ziyang, the party leader. (AFP)

Chinese students marching in protest to the Chinese Embassy in London yesterday. Hunger strikers took up a position on the steps of a building overlooking the embassy.

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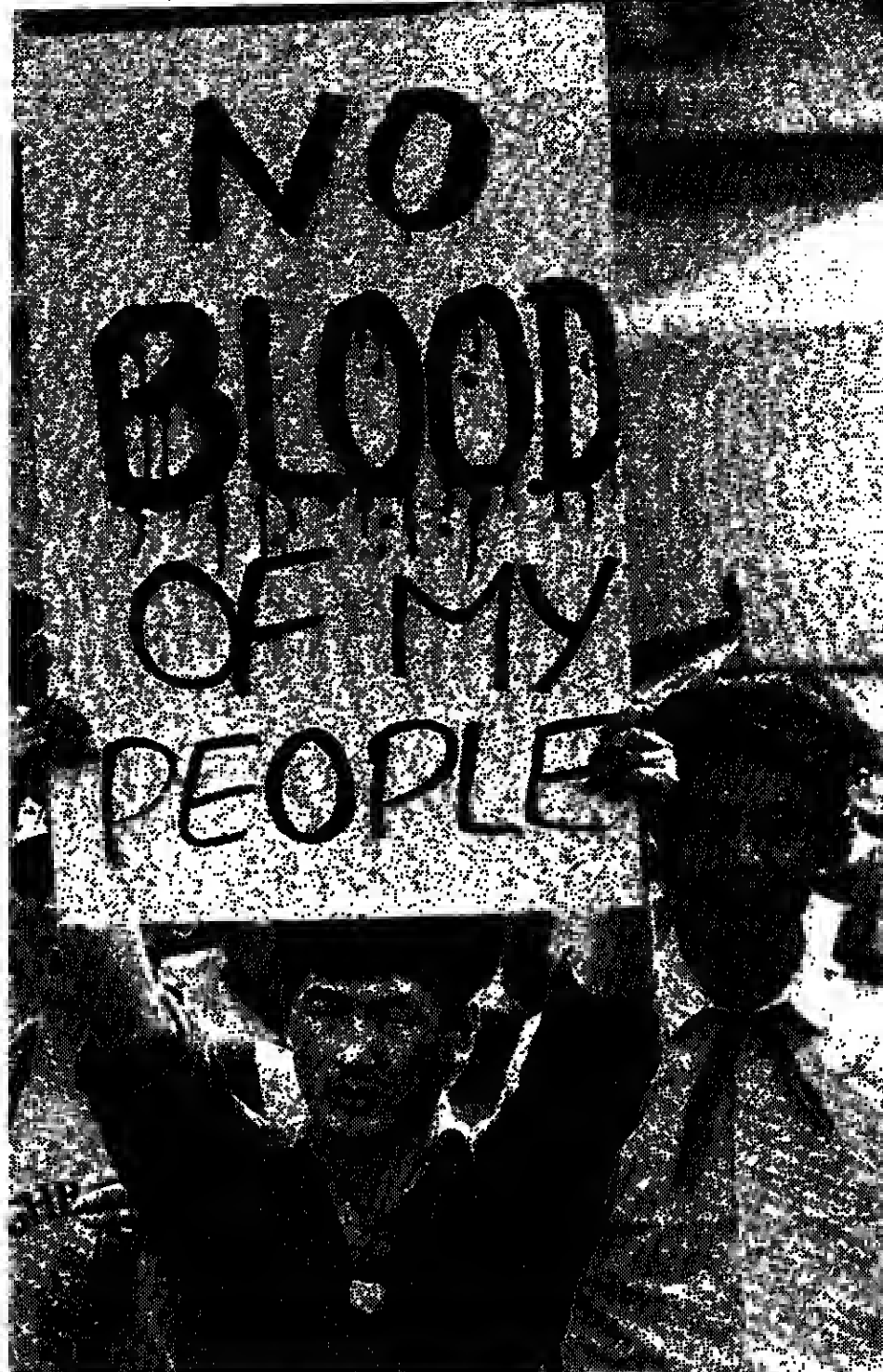
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Chinese students marching in protest to the Chinese Embassy in London yesterday. Hunger strikers took up a position on the steps of a building overlooking the embassy.

Band plays on as military noose bites

From Mary Dejevsky, Peking

One full day into martial law, the orchestra in the lobby of the luxury Jiangnan Hotel was playing "Lara's Theme" from *Dr Zhivago*. Stranded tourists and businessmen were enjoying their pre-lunch drinks and balancing the inconvenience of civil unrest with the excitement of witnessing history.

Outside the plate-glass windows, Peking was being slowly and invisibly throttled by a military noose.

On Tiananmen Square, where the students and other demonstrators are still encamped, the water supply has been turned off. The authorities had installed drinking fountains only 48 hours be-

fore, to discourage drinking from open hoses.

There is less and less transport. Buses have been confined to their depots — perhaps to stop them being used as barricades, perhaps to make movement more difficult. The underground railway is closed; some say troops are hiding their time in the tunnels. News about whether the stations and airports are open varies from hour to hour.

Petrol stations are shut and taxis few. Those remaining can name their price. In 24 hours, the taxi meter has become redundant and Peking has reverted to its traditional forms of transport — the

bicycle and the pedicab. Any semblance of traffic control has long gone. Along the main streets the booths where police, and latterly student marshals, stood on point duty are a mass of young people. They have been conquered for the revolution. The traffic snarls around them.

Railings and concrete pillars are dragged across the road to make barricades at strategic points. Outside the centre, houses have been commandeered.

One part of the main east-west thoroughfare, Chang'an Boulevard, which runs across the top of Tiananmen Square, had been made into a contin-

uous S bend, to be shared by bicycles, pedicabs, ambulances and — the greatest menace of all — the lorries.

For a few days now, the night-time roads have been ruled by lorries crammed with noisy, banner-waving young people. They career unrestrained up and down the main thoroughfares, shouting slogans and enjoying power. Once or twice a day there follows in their wake a disciplined phalanx of motorcycles, perhaps 300 of them. This is the students' reconnaissance corps which follows troop movements as far as possible.

If the immaculate discipline of last week is reduced, the

demonstrations in central Peking are still predominantly peaceful. At the heart of the protest — Tiananmen Square — order prevails, despite the winding down of the hunger strike and the flight of the two main leaders. Exuberance is still there, but some of the joy and cheerfulness has gone.

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A reluctant army is pitted against the people

From Catherine Sampson, Peking

Since the imposition of martial law in Peking on Saturday for the first time in 40 years, the People's Liberation Army has been pitted against the people.

Two nights in a row the people have won, succeeding in keeping troops out of the city. Their achievement stems from ingenuity and courage and from a disinclination of many soldiers to fight against their own people.

It seems that many soldiers are sympathetic to the popular insurrection. One factor is simple: these are young people being asked to put down predominantly young people.

More important, the Army shares many of the economic concerns of the populace and is discontented with the leadership in general. Austerity measures hit the Army before they hit everyone else.

Now, China supports 10 per cent of the world's armed forces on 0.59 per cent of the world's total military budget. The 3.5 million-strong Army is second in size only to that of the

Soviet Union, but expenditure as a proportion of the budget has shrunk from 17.5 per cent in 1979 to 8.5 per cent last year.

Leaders have argued that in peacetime the Army is not a priority and has to put up with cuts, but demobilization of one million troops in a streamlining and budget-cutting exercise has left the military stunned.

The PLA has been told that, to fuod modernization of the forces, the Army must become involved in enterprises. So the PLA has found itself in the unlikely position of involvement in smuggling, running hotels and producing car seats. It may also become a leading arms seller.

Apart from official enterprises run by the Army, there is widespread "moonlighting" on the part of units and individuals. Soldiers are often absent from their posts, negotiating business deals, or else they turn the army barracks into business offices. This has clearly had a deleterious effect on discipline and the central Government has been trying to bring it under control.

The populace also sees the PLA as

irrelevant in peacetime, and agrees with the leaders that there are better things to spend money on. Soldiers argue that on a personal level they have suffered from this attitude: their real standard of living has gone down with rising inflation, and they earn about a quarter of what a civilian of the same age might earn.

Consequently, the Army is having difficulties recruiting. Only in poverty-stricken areas are recruits thick on the ground. Elsewhere, the Army has to pay to lure people to join. Official surveys have revealed a disturbingly high proportion of handicapped and criminal recruits.

Observers have assumed that the hand controlling the military ultimately controls China. Mr Deng Xiaoping, at 84, is still chairman of the Military Commission, and the rumour in Tiananmen Square is that 15 of the country's 17 generals have sworn personal allegiance to Mr Deng. He is thought, along with the Premier, Mr Li Peng, to be behind the crackdown, but it is no longer clear he can command the loyalty of soldiers. There are unconfirmed reports that

the 38th Army refused to carry out orders to clear away the demonstrators. And the troops which have been brought in to take their place — the 27th Army from Shanxi — were under a media blackout before they came to Peking. They were told they were about to take part in a military exercise.

The Army is traditionally seen as a bastion of conservatism, and therefore paradoxically — since its ultimate leader is the economic reformer, Mr Deng — as an obstacle to reform.

However, many of the most dogmatic conservatives have been demobilized, and in the drive for modernization, more pragmatic technocrats have been promoted.

The system of ranks has returned after 23 years without rank insignia. The promotion of bright young things over long servers has caused great resentment.

In general, the move has been towards professionalism and away from politics. There is speculation that there is sufficient variety of political opinion within the Army to split the leadership.

Marchers cheer hunger strikers in London

By Sam Kiley in London, Jonathan Brinde in Hong Kong and our Foreign Staff

The first of what some said would be many hunger strikers took up position opposite the Chinese Embassy in London yesterday as about 5,000 protesters marched through central areas calling for an end to China's state of emergency and the lifting of martial law.

The marchers — Chinese and British students and other supporters of the protesters in Peking — cheered the hunger strikers as they took up position on the steps of the headquarters of the Royal Institute of British Architects overlooking the embassy.

Two demonstrators were admitted to the building, where they delivered an open letter of protest against developments in their home country and held talks with a Chinese diplomat for 45 minutes.

Mr Deng Zhou, a school teacher aged 38 who is studying English at Ealing, says he is an unlikely candidate to be prepared to starve for any cause. "Before the events of the last few days I was not at all interested in politics of any kind. Now the authorities have imposed martial law and a press blackout, I am very, very angry," he said.

He was sitting in the blazing sunshine wrapped in a shirt drenched with red lettering calling for the resignation of the Chinese Cabinet and for democracy in the People's Republic.

Up to a million people — a sixth of the population of Hong Kong — jammed the colony's streets yesterday in support of the Peking protests. Hundreds of thousands of

students and young people thronged thoroughfares, and some leading conservative politicians began to reassess their pro-Chinese stance as the full implications of the crack-down in China began to sink in.

The demonstrators, decked in yellow and white headbands and carrying pro-democracy banners, shouted: "Down with Prime Minister Li Peng" as they marched to the offices of the New China News Agency, China's de facto consulate in Hong Kong.

Some thousand Chinese students in Japan held a rally in a Tokyo park yesterday to denounce the imposition of martial law in China and to express support for the pro-democracy movement at home.

The students, many wearing headbands, carried placards reading "Down with Li Peng" and "Lift martial law immediately".

Mr Yang Zhongmei, a student representative, said: "We will fight in solidarity with our colleagues in our home country until true democracy is realized."

In the United States, Chinese students mounted a 4,000-strong demonstration in Washington, and people rallied in other cities across the country on Saturday to show solidarity with the demonstrators in Peking.

There were rallies of up to a few hundred people in Atlanta, Chicago, Denver and Pacific coast cities, as well as in New York, where 400 people demonstrated in Chinatown and collected money to back the pro-democracy

movement in China. One demonstrator outside the Chinese Embassy in Washington said the country's leadership were no better than "feudal leaders".

Many students had driven for hours to join the demonstration, and carried signs showing they were from Yale, Harvard, Cornell and other universities.

Chinese students in France also demonstrated yesterday. In Paris, banners in French and Chinese carried slogans such as "Brothers and sisters we love you", "1789 Liberty for the French, 1989 Democracy for the Chinese; Bastille Equals Tiananmen".

Some prominent Frenchmen also joined the demonstration, including the novelist, Jean-Loup Sulitzer, and the anti-racism activist, M. Harlem Desir. Mr Joris Ivens, a Dutch film director aged 95, who has done much of his work in China, also took part.

About 30 Chinese students studying in Denmark condemned their Government and demanded the lifting of martial law in a petition handed in to the Chinese Embassy in Copenhagen on Saturday. Their spokesman claimed that the men in power in Peking had formed a military junta "and blood is flowing in China".

A similar demonstration by about 70 Chinese students was earlier held at the Chinese Embassy in Stockholm, the capital of Sweden. The group demanded peaceful development toward democracy in China, then sang the

Deep divide between two men at heart of crisis

Analysts have speculated about a deep rift between Mr Li Peng, the Premier, and Mr Zhao Ziyang, the two men at the heart of the crisis. Such rifts, however, have not come into the open until now.

Mr Zhao Ziyang, who is believed to have offered his resignation on Friday after refusing to approve the decision to impose martial law, has been General Secretary of the Communist Party for only 18 months, though he held the post in an acting capacity for 10 months before that.

He succeeded Hu Yaobang, whose failure to control student unrest in the winter of 1986-1987 cost him his job. It was Hu's death six weeks ago that precipitated the recent outbreak of students' dem-

onstrations. Last week, in the dead of night, he visited the hunger strikers on Tiananmen Square, seeming to apologize for having intervened too late.

This, and his failure to condemn the present student action enhanced his reputation as a liberal reformist, which he had gained with a programme of decentralizing economic reform in his years (1981-1987) as Premier. The student demonstrators regarded him as their protector.

At 69, Mr Zhao is a generation younger than the surviving veterans of the Long March and Civil War period, like Mr Deng Xiaoping. But even when Mr Deng had in principle retired, there was doubt about how much real power Mr Zhao and others of

his generation wielded. The events of last week, when Mr Li seemed to protect Mr Deng against Mr Zhao, suggest that those doubts were justified.

Mr Zhao is a native of Henan province and spent his early career working for the provincial party organization. He is believed to be the son of a former landowner. He moved to Guangdong in the 1950s, was purged during the Cultural Revolution, but re-emerged in 1971 as First Secretary in Inner Mongolia. He then became Governor of Sichuan, in 1980 became a Politburo member, and six months later became Premier.

At the time of his appointment as Premier and as General Secretary, it was rumoured he did not enjoy the

full support of sufficient provinces to be a national leader.

His unconfirmed resignation may mean that this is true, or that he is biding his time to return as uncontested party leader, if and when the martial law operation goes wrong.

Mr Li, aged 60, is one of the more youthful leaders, but is seen as conservative rather than reformist. He has an excellent revolutionary pedigree, his father having been made a martyr to the cause when Li Peng was only two. But it was his adoption aged 11 by Chou En-lai and his wife Deng Yingchao, that indicated a future as a leader.

Mr Li studied in Chongqing and Yenan before going to the Moscow Power Institute in 1948. His Soviet higher edu-

cation is seen as one of the reasons for his more conservative style of socialism.

He joined the Communist Party in 1945, and in government worked in two of the most troubled areas — power and education. He became a member of the Politburo standing committee in 1987. Shortly afterwards, when Mr Zhao resigned the premiership, he took over as acting Premier.

Faced with inflation and an overheated economy, he opted for austerity measures and a slowdown in reform. His approach, said analysts, differed vastly from that of Mr Zhao, who, while cautious against too much speed, had advocated going ahead with radical reform.

Special martial law restrictions for foreigners and journalists

From Mary Dejevsky, Peking

The imposition of martial law in Peking at 10am on Saturday was accompanied by carefully drafted restrictions on freedom of movement and the activities of journalists, especially foreign correspondents. But so far, they stop short of restricting movement about the Chinese capital and no curfew has been imposed.

The order declaring martial law was issued by the State Council and signed by Mr Li Peng, the Premier, citing Clause 16, Article 89 of the Constitution. It referred to the "serious turmoil" in Peking and the disruption to "social stability, people's normal life and social order".

The stated aim was to "stop the unrest, safeguard social tranquillity in Peking, safeguard the life and property of citizens, to protect public property, and to ensure the normal functioning of the central departments and the Peking municipal government".

This edict was followed by three orders issued by the municipal government and signed by Mr Chen Xitong, the Mayor. The first set out the specific

measures that have been taken, the second the restrictions on foreigners in Peking, and the third applied to journalists. The regulations cover all of central Peking and two adjacent areas to the north and south-west, which contain key approach roads to the capital.

Demonstrations, petitions, strikes in educational institutions and workplaces and other "massing of people to impede

● The stated aim is to stop unrest and safeguard life and property in Peking ●

the normal order" are banned, as is the initiating or spreading of rumours, public speeches and distribution of leaflets inciting unrest.

A specific clause outlaws assaults on leading organs of the party, the Government and the Army and on broadcasting and communications installations, and the sabotage of public facilities.

Embassies and United Nations build-

ings enjoy similar protection. The order gives public security officers, members of the armed police and the People's Liberation Army the right to use "every possible means" to stop any of the prohibited activities.

The second order obliges foreigners to observe all orders issued by the Peking government under martial law, prohibits them from getting involved in activities of Chinese citizens which break the law, and gives the Army the right to prevent violations.

The third order prevents the Chinese or foreign press from using coverage to "make instigating and inciting propaganda", and it bans foreign journalists from entering government institutions, schools, factories and neighbourhoods to conduct interviews, take pictures or make videotapes without the approval of the Peking government.

Foreign news organizations based here and the British Embassy have advised correspondents and staff to observe the regulations.

The text of the Peking municipal government regulations.

Order 1 in accordance with the Order of

the State Council, signed by Premier Li Peng, on enforcing martial law in part of Peking, the Peking municipal people's government issues this order with a view to quickly checking social turmoil and safeguarding the normal work, production, teaching scientific research and social living in the capital.

1 Starting from 10.00 on May 20, 1989, martial law is enforced in Eastern, Western, Chongwen, Xuanwu, Shijingshan, Haidian, Fengtai and Chaoyang districts.

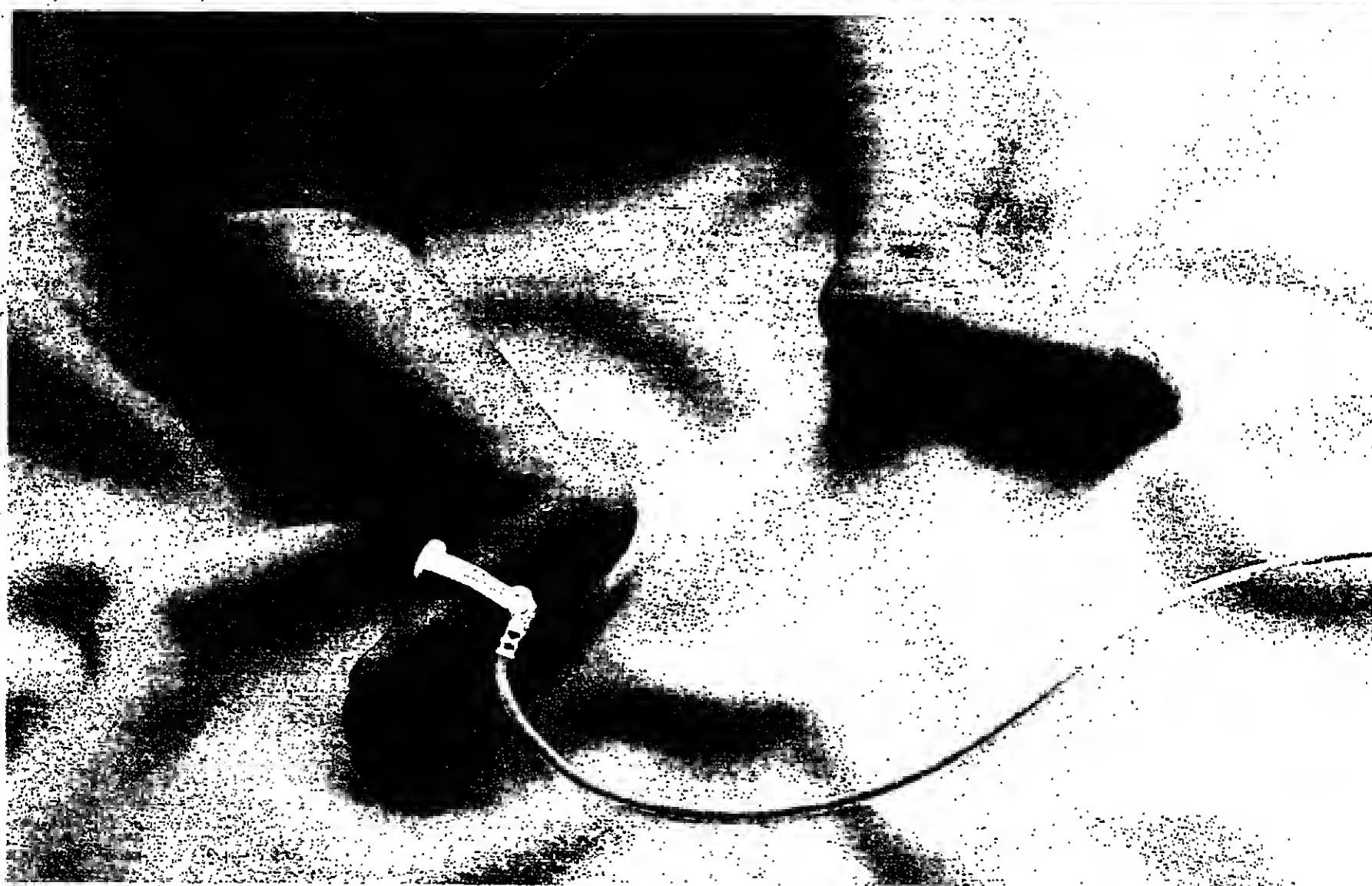
2 Under martial law, demonstrations, petitions, class boycotts, work stoppages and other activities of amassing people to impede the normal order are banned.

3 People are banned from using any form to create and spread rumours, establish ties, make public speeches or distribute leaflets to incite social turmoil.

4 It is prohibited to assault leading organs of the party, the Government and the Army, to assault broadcasting, television, communications and other key units, or to sabotage important public facilities. All disruptive activities such as beating, smashing, looting and setting fire are strictly forbidden.

5 It is prohibited to harass embassies of all countries and agencies of the United Nations in Peking.

6 Under martial law, public security officers, members of the armed police and men of the People's Liberation Army on duty have the right to use every possible means to stop any of the above prohibited activities, should



They both monitor blood. If this were your child which would you choose?

Recently The BOC Group perfected the Biox Pulse Oximeter. A machine so sophisticated that it can monitor the oxygen level in blood every second a patient is undergoing surgery. Without even breaking the skin. The Oximeter contributes

considerably to The BOC Group's growing worldwide health care sales of over £½ billion. What it contributes to world health care, in terms of reducing avoidable brain damage and mortality, would be impossible to put a figure on.

THE BOC GROUP

MORE THAN JUST A BRITISH OXYGEN COMPANY.

Expelled journalist feels 'cruelty' of a diplomatic chess game



Angus Roxburgh: Moscow should welcome journalists.

Angus Roxburgh of *The Sunday Times*, one of three British journalists ordered out of Moscow yesterday, gives his personal reaction to his expulsion.

Expulsions and counter-expulsions have always seemed a particularly futile form of diplomatic activity. Doubtless, after a brief period of coolness, British-Soviet relations will continue to improve as before. In the long run it is only the individuals concerned who suffer.

My own anger at being caught up in the latest diplomatic chess game is as much with London as with the Kremlin. The Russian response, after all, is predictable, if wholly unjust. The reasoning behind it,

apparently, is just to make a point — to demonstrate that, however much President Gorbachev appreciates Mrs Thatcher's understanding ear when he explains the intricacies of *perestroika* to her, he won't let her push him around.

But why do the British have such a predilection for expelling Soviet spies? Presumably there are as many Russians engaged in "impermissible activities" in West Germany, France, or the US, yet expulsions from those countries are much rarer.

One might imagine that it is easier to know who the spies in your midst are, and to keep tabs on them, than to expel them and have to deal with a fresh batch of unknown quantities.

For a journalist, to have to leave

the Soviet Union at a time like this is the cruellest possible punishment. Perhaps only here, over the past couple of years, has there been a sense of history in the making. Journalists have the excitement of reporting not just the making of a new Russia but possibly of a new world order, thanks to the Gorbachev phenomenon.

Living in Moscow, seeing the flowering of thought and the awakening of a people, one is perhaps more acutely aware than more distant observers, of the necessity for the West to respond positively, and quickly, to the tortured, but none the less insistent, changes taking place here.

On a personal level, I feel I am being torn from an adopted motherland: I have invested 17

years in studying Russian and things Soviet, and know and love Moscow better than any other city.

Now I have an inkling of what those dissidents of the 1970s felt like when they were suddenly deprived of Soviet citizenship and told they were no longer fit to live in the country of their birth.

I had tried to report on the changes under Mr Gorbachev with understanding and hope — mixed with trepidation that it might all end, plunging the country back into the dark ages I experienced while working here 10 years ago.

I could try, of course, to do the same from a London newspaper office. But "emigre" writings about Russia have rarely worked out. It is the Russians, so desperate that the West should understand both the

achievements and the problems of *perestroika*, who suffer.

If they want to be understood in the West, they ought to be welcoming correspondents with a sympathetic approach, not labelling them as spies and deporting them. They could also exercise a little restraint in their espionage activities.

● **Clear Signal:** The expulsion of 11 Soviet diplomats and journalists from London for spying is a clear signal to the Kremlin that Britain is willing to jeopardize its improved ties with Moscow to stop the KGB or its military counterpart, the GRU, from rebuilding operations in London (Nicholas Beeston writes).

Since 1985, the Soviet secret service has been trying to repair the damage to its Western European

network after the defection of Mr Oleg Gordievsky, its station chief in London. The information which he provided led to the expulsion of 25 Soviet diplomats, journalists and trade officials and ultimately to 31 Britons and Soviet citizens being forced home.

Although President Gorbachev has impressed Western leaders, and in particular Mrs Thatcher, with the pace of his political reforms and his dynamism on arms control, KGB activities abroad have not been curtailed.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, said in January: "If anything, those activities have intensified since Mr Gorbachev became leader of the Soviet Union."

Washington pledges strong nuclear presence in Europe after shift on short-range arms policy

Bush tells West to beware continuing Soviet threat

From Charles Bremner, New York

President Bush yesterday delivered a stern lecture to the Western allies on the danger of complacency in the face of a continuing Soviet threat, and promised that the United States would maintain modern nuclear weapons in Europe as a vital symbol of its commitment to the continent.

Mr Bush defined his strategy for Europe in a speech, heard by President Mitterrand of France, two days after Washington reversed policy and agreed to the principle of West Germany's demand for negotiations on short-range nuclear missiles.

The shift by Washington, though hedged with conditions, has infuriated Mrs Thatcher and set the scene for discord with Britain.

The world was witnessing a "great irony" which had become a "major concern" for his Administration, Mr Bush said in his speech at Boston University. "While an ideological earthquake is shaking asunder the very foundation of communist societies, the West is being tested by complacency."

"We must never forget that, twice in this century, American blood has been shed over conflicts that began in Europe. We share the fervent desire of Europeans to relegate war for ever to the province of distant memory, but that is why the Atlantic alliance is so central to our foreign policy."

He said the US remained totally committed to Nato's doctrine of flexible response, the strategy under which the alliance contemplates nuclear retaliation for a conventional attack in Europe.

"Our short-range deterrent forces based in Europe and kept up to date demonstrate that America's vital interests are bound inextricably to Western Europe," Mr Bush declared. "Though hope is now running high for a more

peaceful continent, the history of this century teaches Americans and Europeans to remain prepared."

The President, who has been criticized severely at home and abroad for failing to respond imaginatively to the Kremlin's overtures, said that he was "grateful for the steps that Mr Gorbachev is taking" but at the same time we have an obligation to temper optimism with prudence.

"I believe in a deliberate, step-by-step approach to East-West relations because recurring signs show that, while change in the Soviet Union is dramatic, it is not yet complete," he said, going on to cite the Warsaw Pact's continuing superiority in most arms categories.

The speech, billed as Mr Bush's definitive statement on Europe, was clearly crafted to satisfy both those who attacked him for hesitation and those allies, such as Mrs Thatcher, who believe he has yielded too much to Bonn's demands with a key Nato

summit only 10 days away. On Saturday, President Mitterrand endorsed the new American approach to the missile dispute, which was handed to Herr Gerhard Stoltenberg, the West German Defence Minister, in Washington on Friday.

Mrs Thatcher, on getting wind of the shift by Washington, transmitted an urgent written message to Mr Bush on Friday, diplomats said.

Mr James Baker, the Secretary of State, confirmed at Kennebunkport, the Bush home in Maine where the two Presidents met, that Washington had sent a "counter-proposal" to Bonn that accepts the principle of future negotiations with the Soviet Union — a notion that Mrs Thatcher vehemently rejects.

But the US was insisting that, before such talks could begin, "there must be considerably more progress" in reducing conventional or non-nuclear arms, he said. The proposal also envisioned postponing the "deployment and

production" of modernized Lance missiles until after 1992 but it included language that would commit Nato to keep its nuclear forces up to date, he added.

M. Roland Dumas, the French Foreign Minister, said that the new American approach was "very much on the same broad lines" as that of Paris.

US officials said the American conditions for talks were "very demanding" and had not been accepted yet by the West Germans. British officials, however, suggested that Mrs Thatcher might prevail on the President to shift back again.

One condition specifies that negotiated cuts in short-range missiles cannot be carried out until a separate East-West agreement to cut conventional forces is signed and fully implemented.

In practice, this would probably not come about until at least 1997, a target date suggested by Mr Gorbachev in his latest blueprint for Europe.

Mr Bush developed in his speech the theme of an Atlantic spirit and a moral community, a concept that he opposes to Mr Gorbachev's vision of a "common European home". Unlike all the "cynical power alliances of the past", Mr Bush said, Nato was based on "culture, kinship and shared values". The US was determined to preserve this and avoid letting any antagonisms develop between Washington and the EC.

"There are certain to be clashes and controversies over economic issues. America will, of course, defend its interests. But it is important to distinguish adversaries from allies... What a tragedy, what an absurdity it would be if future historians attribute the demise of the Western alliance to disputes over beef hormones and wars over pasta."



Members of 36 Battery, 50th Missile Regiment Royal Artillery, on manoeuvres with a Lance near Menden, West Germany.

British battery tests Lance readiness

From Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent, Menden, West Germany

A few minutes before countdown drill for launching the inertially-guided, dual-generon Lance nuclear missile, two gunners from 36 Battery, 50th Missile Regiment, Royal Artillery, strolled 90 yards down the path and round behind a hedge, unwinding the firing cable.

"Go in launch," shouted the section commander, Lieutenant Andy Burr. Everyone left the area. The soldiers of the Special Defence Group, responsible for protecting the Lance launcher, lay low in the tall grass and waited for the 30-second countdown.

The missile, its hearing fixed with the help of a theodolite and a new red sighting unit attached to the outer casing, was perched on its launcher a few feet out from the beech wood.

At the end of the countdown, had this

been a live firing, there would have followed "one helluva wallow", as Lieutenant-Colonel Tim Dumas, commanding officer of 50th Missile Regiment, put it, and a belch of black smoke, with the missile disappearing from view within seconds. Live firings are carried out every year at the Royal Artillery range in the Outer Hebrides.

The number "five" was left out of the countdown because it sounds too much like "fire". In war, if authentication were given by the commander of 1st British Corps to launch Lance, the missile would have to be fired precisely according to the time laid down in the coded fire manual.

The Lance battery was carrying out a training exercise a few miles outside the West German town of Menden, home of 50th Missile Regiment, which because of

its nuclear role has been at the centre of the increasingly bitter debate within Nato over the future of tactical missiles. American, West German, Italian, Belgian and Dutch Lance units are also spread out across the country.

At the crucial Nato summit in Brussels a week today, the row over the Lance missile, its planned replacement and its possible inclusion (if West Germany gets its way) in arms-reduction negotiations with the Soviet Union, are expected to dominate discussions on alliance arms-control strategy.

The local community is fully aware of the nuclear element in its midst although, ironically, even the official army film on the regiment refers to its location as Menden, not Menden, a town about 50 miles away.

WORLD ROUNDUP

Shamir set to quit if party bars poll

Occupied Gaza Strip — As he left for London yesterday to seek backing for his peace plan, Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Prime Minister, threatened to resign if his proposal for elections in the West Bank and Gaza is not approved by his own party, the Likud (Richard Owen writes).

In a simultaneous concession to the Palestinians, the Israeli authorities lifted the five-day curfew imposed in the Gaza Strip as part of Mr Shamir's policy of combining a crackdown on unrest with the peace plan. Palestinians in Gaza responded by going on strike despite the hardship the curfew has brought. They said the strike was to protest against the continuing detention of Israeli prisoners. ● Casablanca: The strictest security ever introduced for an Arab League gathering is in operation here for tomorrow's emergency summit. Empty promises, page 16

Marcos still critical

Manila — The Philippines' oldest political party, which swept Mr Ferdinand Marcos, the ousted President, to power in 1965, yesterday launched its campaign for the 1992 presidential elections without any tribute or reference to Mr Marcos, who is critically ill in Hawaii (Humphrey Hawkesley writes). Late yesterday Mr Marcos's condition was still listed as "very critical" after he suffered kidney failure on Thursday. A hospital spokesman said Mr Marcos was more alert and conscious, but unable to speak. Leading article, page 17

Soviet poverty trap

Moscow (AFP) — About 43 million Soviet citizens, some 15 per cent of the population, do not receive the minimum income considered necessary for a decent life, set at 75 roubles (£75) a month, Mr Nikolai Ryzhikov, the Soviet Prime Minister, said in a televised debate at the weekend. Retired people formed the category hardest hit by poverty.

Swedish terror charges

Stockholm (AP) — Three men linked to the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command have been charged by Swedish police for suspected complicity in a 1983 terrorist attack against a Danish synagogue and attempted bombings of Israeli and US airline offices in various European capitals, news reports said yesterday.

Mengistu frees three

Nairobi (Reuters) — Three Ethiopian generals, among those arrested after last week's coup attempt, have been freed. Addis Ababa radio said, adding that President Mengistu's Government "has decided they were free from blame". The three were named as Brigadier-Generals Gesese Fids, Habte Mikael Biru, and Admasu Gebre Hana.

Mixed reaction to Baker from samizdat press

The Soviet samizdat won a further measure of recognition when some of its leading journalists were received by Mr James Baker, the US Secretary of State, during his Moscow visit, although by no means all were satisfied with what he said. Meanwhile, the Soviet authorities are seeking to hamper the production and circulation of samizdat. Nevertheless, its growth continues.

Baker meets journalists

May 10, Moscow — The US Secretary of State addressed a group of about 30 samizdat journalists at the US Embassy. Later a number of the Soviet participants commented on the meeting in the unofficial press.

Valery Senderov, of the Moscow branch of the Society for Human Rights, said that Mr Baker had spoken to "the opposition movement". He had emphasized the concern of the US with human rights in the Soviet Union, but had dwelt on only two aspects of this many-sided problem, namely Jewish emigration and the position of Jews in the Soviet Union. Other aspects were treated in one sentence. "To allow Jews to leave the

country freely and to improve their conditions is something the regime can do without changing its course. Public control over the Government will not be brought about by such changes. Necessary though they are, such control is possible only when you have a mature political opposition and a free press." Mr Senderov quoted him as saying said.

Viktor Aksyuchits, the publisher of the religious journal *Izbor* (Choice), commented that it was "alarming" that Mr Baker had limited himself to Jewish questions, and that "it is premature to say that the Soviet Union has peaceful intentions, since it continues to be an expansionist state".

Emmanuel Lurije, an activist of the Jewish Repatriation Movement, said: "The Americans stand up for the rights of man. But for whom

are they putting on a show — our Government or their own voters? I didn't understand".

Lev Timofeyev, the editor of *Referendum*, described the meeting as "useful".

Aleksandr Ogorodnikov, editor-in-chief of the *Bulletin of Christian Public Opinion*, was glad to find that the new US Administration, like its predecessor, was committed to fighting for human rights.

Roman Spector, an activist of the Jewish Movement and a writer for the Jewish paper *Shalom*, thought that Mr Baker's assessments were "stereotyped". He added that "the emphasis on the emigration issue, in particular on the emigration of certain families, reflects euphoric thinking..."

Official pressure

May 9, Alma-Ata (Kazakhstan) — At the beginning of the month two KGB officers called on the administration of Tribuna, an organization which duplicates and circulates samizdat in Kazakhstan. Tribuna denied that those involved were members of the Democratic Union. Subsequent to the visit, mem-

bers of Tribuna have encountered difficulties at their workplaces.

April-May, Moscow — On April 23 the MVD (Interior Ministry) carried out a search at the Gnesins Musical-Pedagogical Institute and confiscated 70 copies of *Ekspress-Khronika*. Two members of the institute's printing shop were charged with a criminal offence, namely "minor misappropriation of state or public property".

On May 12, in connection with this case, the MVD made

THE SOVIET OPPOSITION

a search at the Moscow Independent Public Library where its manager, Mr Yuri Kuskov, was invited to hand over the library's contents. The MVD then removed 700 books, journals, newspapers and other documents, mostly samizdat. Mr Kuskov was taken away for questioning, particularly about the source of the paper used for printing samizdat publications at the Gnesins Institute. He refused to answer any questions.

A group of leading samizdat journalists immediately protested about the search of the library. They denounced the action as interference with the free exchange of information.

New newspaper

May, Moscow — The first issue of a newspaper, *Russkiye Vedomosti* (Russian Information), has appeared. It is an organ of the Russian Popular-Democratic Movement, and other movements which have as their purpose the struggle for Russian unity and for the physical and spiritual renaissance of the Russian people.

In the words of the introductory leading article: "We stand for a single undivided Russia, and against a new revolution, regardless under what aims and ideas it might be presented."

May 12, Gorky — The unofficial demonstrations during the May Day parade, reported in this series on May 15, led to a series of trials between May 3 and 5.

Between 30 and 60 people were arrested in all. Four of those tried were sentenced to 15 days' detention. They had

all declared a hunger strike from the moment of their arrest and apparently kept it up.

Later, the sentence on one of them was reduced to five days. Others were fined from 50 roubles (about £50) to 300 roubles. Some were given warnings or let off.

Satirical demonstration

May 9, Vilnius (Lithuania) — A demonstration was arranged by unofficial youth organizations. Thirty demonstrators, dressed in Soviet army uniforms, paraded with red flags, spades and placards. One placard read: "The spade is the soldier's friend." They also carried out as they marched such slogans as "Long live the Soviet Army, the liberator of peoples!" "We don't need the sun, the party shines on us!" and "Long live the KGB!"

When they reached Lenin's statue, they put their spades, placards and flags at its base. More than 3,000 people watched the demonstration. © Samizdat Press Agency Ltd

Crockett hangs up jacket as US outgrows 'Miami Vice'

From Charles Bremner, New York

Sonny Crockett stepped out of his fedora and hung up his linen jacket for the last time last night when US television broadcast the final episode of *Miami Vice*, the cops-and-cocaine show that brought glamour to a much-abused city and invented a style that was adopted by millions of American men.

Yet, as it became known, simply had outlived its time. America has moved on from adorning the glitz, flash and pastel hipness of the show, which first went on the air in 1984 as the Reagan era was nearing its zenith.

The series, which elevated Don Johnson from obscurity to stardom,

was an instant hit when it first appeared, with its mixture of ingredients that had never before been used during America's rigidly bland prime time — a big city police show set to rock music and with a dark, semi-mystical, undercurrent.

With the country now in more sombre mood, worrying about food additives, pollution and the real ravages of the drug dealers, *Miami Vice*, with all its post-modern sweetness, had begun to look about as out of date as side burns and hipster trousers. Even the detectives of the real Miami vice squad, once among the show's best fans, said they had stopped tuning in.

The same fate has befallen *Dynasty*, that other television icon of

the 1980s. Americans, it appears, grew bored watching the implausible antics of the rich and bitchy. The diamonds and snazzy came out for the last time last week, though the makers say they may bring the show back in the future.

The other great "soaps" are struggling through, though *Dallas*, now 11 years old, is no longer to be filmed in the Texas city and has lost much of its audience.

The party goes on for one more season at *Knots Landing*, the current soap leader, but the curtain has just come down on *Moonlighting*, the other 1980s show that, together with *Miami Vice*, was once viewed as avant-garde.

For the Florida city, *Vice* was a

godsend, even though it glamorized the more criminal of its citizens, in particular the culture of cocaine-trafficking and money-laundering.

Until the show, the rest of America and the world regarded the city as something of a sub-tropical backwater where elderly pensioners from New York and New Jersey retired. Now the city is seen as a Casablanca or Marseilles, a glamorous place packed with intrigue, danger, art deco architecture, flamboyant characters wandering around in Versace suits with pink T-shirts. That "European" style was emulated across the country from Maine to New Mexico.

As the *Miami Herald* put it in an

obituary: "It was the show that redefined Miami's image."

Curiously, Miami remoulded itself in that fictional image. The producers homed in at the start on a dilapidated stretch known as the South Beach, which features old hotels from the art deco period, and pretended that this was the flavour of the whole city.

The city followed suit, developing huge building projects in the show's aquamarine and palm-tree designer style.

"When we got there, the art deco district was somewhat threadbare," said Mr Anthony Yerkovich, who devised the show. "Now it's up to its Ray-Bans (fashionable sunglasses) in espresso."

More than just a British oxygen company.

BOC is British, certainly. But 81% of our sales take place abroad. We manufacture in 50 countries. We sell in many more. And we employ almost 40,000 people worldwide. BOC is a major gases company. But not to the exclusion of all else. Health care and other new technologies now

account for 38% of our sales. BOC is, in fact, a world leader in all its major businesses. Which explains why last year our total sales exceeded £2.5 billion. And our profits topped £300 million. BOC just a British oxygen company? Clearly, nothing could be further from the truth.

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INFAMOUS LAST WORDS



Why do forecasters so often seem to get it wrong? Is there any hope for the nation's crystal gazers? City analyst Bill Martin, Chief UK Economist at UBS Phillips & Drew, discovers a source of forecasts that over the years has proved both timely and accurate. City pundits and government gurus, he suggests, would do well to turn their attention to BAA's centre for research and planning.

Who'd be a forecaster? Exude the faintest hint of gloom and the Chancellor dismisses you as a 'teenage scribbler.'

The least whiff of optimism and along comes an 'inflationary blip' or a US budget deficit and – presto! – it's back to the analyst's couch.

Crystal gazing is a high risk profession.

The date 6th August 1987 will forever be graven in the memory of a friend of mine. At lunch, he told a client that interest rates would not rise. That afternoon, they went up by 1%.

Then there was the currency economist who announced that the pound was 'well under-pinned' and should rise to DM 3.30, whereupon it promptly plummeted to DM 3.20.

(Of course I make blunders too. You'll find them detailed on page 104.) But if short-term miscalculations are embarrassing, at least they are easily correctable. With a long range forecast the penalties for getting it wrong are much worse.

At the time of the Second Oil Shock, it was thought that soaring oil prices for the foreseeable future would mean the demise of the private motor car. Why build an eight-lane motorway when a six-lane one would be so much cheaper?

Result: the M25.

Oil Shock II also coincided with a debate about the future of London's airports. Under discussion was an ambitious expansion of Stansted airport and a public inquiry was set up to examine

Suppose, he said, that instead of high oil prices and low growth, it turned out the other way round. BAA, he stubbornly insisted, was forecasting 62-63 million passengers.

Impossible, sniffs the official record.

But BAA's Mr Maiden was right. When 1988 finally arrived, so did 62 million passengers.

With the number of air travellers using London's airports expected to double within the next 15 years, the situation facing them – had the Stansted planning application been refused – would be nightmarish. Just as well the opposing fore-

casts were not believed.

Airport terminals and runways are vast projects costing hundreds of millions of pounds. Yet the money has to be committed perhaps ten years before the facility will be operational.

If the forecasts are wrong, the result will either be chaos or expensive wasted capacity.

Stan Maiden of BAA told me how their policy is to build in advance

of growing demand, but that newspapers often complain that BAA's new facilities (such as Heathrow's Terminal 4 and Gatwick's North Terminal) were always opened only just in time. Little did they realise they were paying him a compliment.

Among the cognoscenti, BAA's forecasters have long been known for their uncanny accuracy.

Back in 1967, they said that by 1980 Gatwick would be handling between 9 and 10 million passengers a year.

Looking 13 years ahead is no easy task, and as Gatwick was at the time scarcely able to muster 2 million passengers annually, this prediction met with derision.

But they were right. (Today Gatwick is the world's second

busiest international airport, with BAA's Heathrow taking the top slot.)

In fact, with one in five of all international flights either taking off from or landing at a BAA airport, it is vitally important for the world's aviators that they do get it right.

So what's the secret?

For a start, a good database. To test BAA's, I randomly asked for the number of arrivals on July 1st 1988 at Heathrow Airport's Terminal 3.

At what time of day? came the reply. Between 0500 and 0600, I said.

It turned out that 3,082 people had arrived on 12 aircraft. I challenged them to name the 5th aircraft. Singapore Airlines Flight SQ022, a Boeing 747, landed 0529 carrying 406 passengers and 21,416 kg of cargo, they instantly replied. When you consider that their records stretch back in this kind of infinitesimal detail for 20 years, it is



"Against this positive economic background, the bull market looks set to continue."

UK Equity Trust two days before the Crash – October 1987



"It will be years – and not in my time – before a woman will lead the party or become Prime Minister."

Margaret Thatcher – 1974

"A woman rang to say she'd heard there was a hurricane on the way – well don't worry, there isn't." Michael Fish – 15th October 1987

easy to see that they are extremely well informed.

The second necessity is to think creatively and not to rely on 'trends.'

By the time a trend is discovered it's inevitably half over. If it continues long enough it typically turns into something new and different – often its own opposite. Worst of all, trends don't tell us why things happen.

It takes a nice curvaceous non-linear thought, a stroke of imagination and a dash of insight into causality to determine where we are going at any given moment. Even quantitative models based on lots of real data – the kind BAA collects by the warehouseful – need to be leavened by intuition, creative thinking and experience in the business.

Thirdly, how's your credibility?

It is obvious that

bad forecasts can cause chaos. But by the same token, the best forecast is useless if the planning inquiry decides not to act on it. In our business, it is crucial to be believed. You have to prove need. In fact, say the cynics, it is more important to be believed than to be right.

Of course the more often you are right, the more likely you are to be believed.



"The Arab cutbacks could mean that rationing would probably have to last for at least three years." Daily Telegraph – November 1973

Take the current debate about whether or not the South East needs an extra runway in the 1990s. Some say yes, BAA say no, because Stansted will serve us until after the turn of the century.

No doubt it'll soon be statistics at dawn. But given the track records of the various parties involved, I know who I'd believe.

BAA
The world's leading international airport group.



"The fall in house prices over the next ten years could be as much as 80%." Bob Beckman – 1983

Heathrow • Gatwick • Stansted • Glasgow • Edinburgh • Prestwick • Aberdeen

Conciliatory Lawson meets EC halfway

In a significant concession to its impatient European partners, Britain has accepted the Delors report as a basis for progress towards economic and monetary union and agreed to begin work immediately on the first stage.

Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, also told fellow finance ministers meeting informally over the weekend at this secluded resort, that Britain was ready to consider the next two stages, including the possibility of calling an inter-governmental conference to draw up a new treaty.

However, he firmly rejected the linkage in the Delors report between the stages. And he insisted that, while Britain was willing to work within the existing Treaty of Rome and Single European Act toward greater economic and monetary co-operation, "there is no question of a new treaty".

M Jacques Delors, president of the European Commission, said he was pleased by the result and not surprised by Britain's stance. He thought a decision whether to draft an EMU treaty could be taken in December. He was watching the debate in Britain on Europe and EMU with interest, and hoped for clarification of the British position in Madrid next month.

However, he rejected any proposal to split up the timetable of his report, remarking angrily that this was not what

From Michael Binyon, S'Agaró, Spain

the 17 central bankers and experts had signed. If the EC went ahead only with the first stage, it might as well scrap the report as "yet another failure" in the long search for economic and monetary union.

In marked contrast to his peremptory rejection of the report on its publication last month as unacceptable because it would inevitably lead to political union, Mr Lawson was conciliatory at the meeting, surprising fellow ministers and giving many the impression that Britain was anxious not to be isolated and was playing for time.

He said he had no objection to discussion of the second two stages of the report, which entail the setting up of a central system of European banks, the harmonization of budgetary policies and the eventual abolition of all national currencies. "The more they are discussed, the more the difficulties will be clear."

Despite some reservations by Denmark, most of the other Twelve want to move ahead towards full implementation of EMU, and several ministers gave public warnings after the talks that they were prepared to go ahead without Britain if necessary.

Mr Lawson said he heard no such threats during the talks. But he conceded the danger of Britain being isolated. "We have taken a position different from other countries."

The political implications

were considerable, he emphasized. "It is very glib to assume that we just can go ahead on this course without making major changes on the political front," he said. "Those are not changes that we are ready to make, nor do I believe that other countries are ready to make. Economic and monetary union — particularly monetary union — really go hand in hand with political union."

Mr Lawson gave a warm welcome to the other results of the meeting: the virtual agreement on the revised proposals by Mme Christiane Scriveener, the Tax and Customs Union Commissioner, for excise tax and VAT harmonization, and the strong opposition to any withholding tax by banks on capital funds.

With a dig at Lord Cockfield, the British Commissioner whose tax proposals angered Britain, he said he was glad that an "English dogmatist has been replaced by a French pragmatist".

He was glad the commission now accepted the British arguments for keeping zero VAT rating on certain goods. He said the proposal for a withholding tax had been effectively buried, and Britain would instead support new measures to prevent tax evasion and fraud. But he thought the French had always been over-concerned about this when agreeing on capital liberalization.



Mr Lawson during an impromptu news conference at the meeting of EC finance ministers.

Spanish cooking-oil trial

Court uproar at 'light' sentences

From Harry Debelius, Madrid

Survivors of Spain's "toxic syndrome", which killed more than 600 people and left 25,000 ill, clashed with police here after learning that only two of the 13 people convicted for their part in distributing adulterated cooking oil would spend any more time in jail.

Juan Miguel Bengoechea received 20 years and Ramon Ferrero 12 years. The 11 others convicted, who received sentences of between six months and 10 years, are eligible for parole after having served all or part of their terms before the trial.

The five-judge court acquitted another 25 defendants. In delivering its verdict and the sentences over seven hours before more than 1,000 spectators on Saturday, it blamed the mass poisonings of 1981 on an ill-fated attempt to refine industrial-grade rapeseed oil, which was marketed illegally for human consumption.

Although the court acknowledged that the actual toxic element was never found in laboratory tests, it flatly rejected an alternative theory that the cause of the poisonings was pesticides.

Bengoechea was given the maximum sentence of 20 years for two offences against public

health and one of professional irresponsibility. The state prosecutor had asked the court to condemn him to more than 60,000 years.

Ferrero, for whom a total of more than 60,000 years' jail had also been requested, was sentenced to 12 years on two offences of professional irresponsibility and one of fraud.

When the sentences were read out, an uproar started in the court, with shouts of "We want justice!"

The presiding judge ordered the courtroom to be cleared and the session was resumed one hour later.

Outside, police fired smoke grenades to disperse demonstrators who tried to topple crowd-control barriers and fences. After the session, frustrated victims, many of whom are permanently disabled, stood a bus in which the accused were removed from the scene, smashing several windows.

The court ordered those convicted to pay hefty compensation to victims and their heirs. But since the scandal put most of the accused and their families out of business, it is doubtful whether the damages can ever be met. The court specifically absolved the state from responsibility.

Alfonsín ready to depart early as economy worsens

From Michael Llanos, Buenos Aires

President Raúl Alfonsín, his administration lacking credibility with inflation at 28,000 per cent a year, yesterday met advisers to make plans for handing over power to President-elect Carlos Menem before the scheduled December 10 inauguration date.

Señor Menem, the leader of the opposition Peronist movement who was elected President on May 14, said yesterday that he would be willing to take office before President Alfonsín's six-year mandate officially ends. His advisers suggested June 20, Flag Day, or July 9, Independence Day, for inauguration.

President Alfonsín was expected to accept the resignation of Señor Juan Carlos Pugliese, the Economy Minister, and appoint a transition team made up of Peronist economists. May inflation is estimated at 65 per cent, or 28,000 per cent a year, the highest rate ever registered in Argentina. Economists are predicting triple-digit inflation for June.

Argentines are trying to protect themselves by buying foreign currencies. Argentina's national currency last week sank to a new low level of 200 australs to one US dollar as investors fled the austral. Banks, trying to keep people from withdrawing australs, drove interest rates up to as much as 300 per cent a month. Faced with this erosion, the Government was expected to declare a bank and foreign currency holiday today which could last as long as a week.

Apart from buying US dollars, Argentines are trying to protect themselves from inflation by stocking foodstuffs as soon as they cash their pay cheques. Supermarket queues have become unmanageable, with security guards at some places closing doors to keep the shoppers out.

Still, few are able to keep up with the price increases. Wine and mate, the local tea, two favourite beverages, doubled

in price in a few days; coffee tripled. Though most Argentines, especially blue-collar workers, have seen their purchasing power halved, the few people with incomes in foreign currency are benefiting greatly. A pint of beer costs about 10p, 1 lb of filet mignon around 25p.

A more important sector — the military — is trying to benefit as well from the crisis. In recent weeks, senior officers have made veiled appeals for an end to human rights trials and for an amnesty for officers already in prison before the new administration takes office. Some of Señor Menem's advisers have suggested the same, but the Alfonsín administration, at its weakest ever, has so far resisted the pressure.

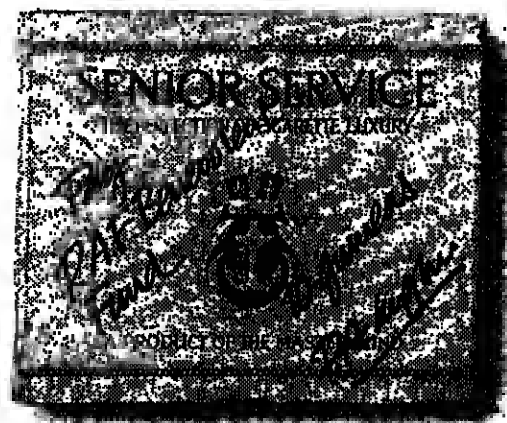
The huge fall in purchasing power, coupled with lay-offs and a 40 per cent increase in utility rates and transport costs, has fuelled fears of social unrest. The General Confederation of Labour, a Peronist bastion, suspended strike action until after the May 14 election but is now likely to adopt measures to protest at what it says are monthly salaries "that are consumed in five days".

The nature of the new economic authorities, a transition team rather than Señor Menem's closest advisers, suggests they will take unpopular measures, such as imposing new taxes and raising utility rates and transport costs.

Señor Alfonsín and Señor Menem agreed to bring forward the inauguration date after it had proved impossible to "co-govern", said a Peronist deputy, Señor Guido di Tella, an economist. "That would be like two people trying to drive the same car".

Peronist sources said the President-elect's Cabinet would also include Señor Italo Luder as Foreign Minister. A constitutional lawyer and former Provisional President, he lost against Señor Alfonsín in the 1983 presidential race.

WHICH CHEQUE'S GOT THE MOST INTEREST?

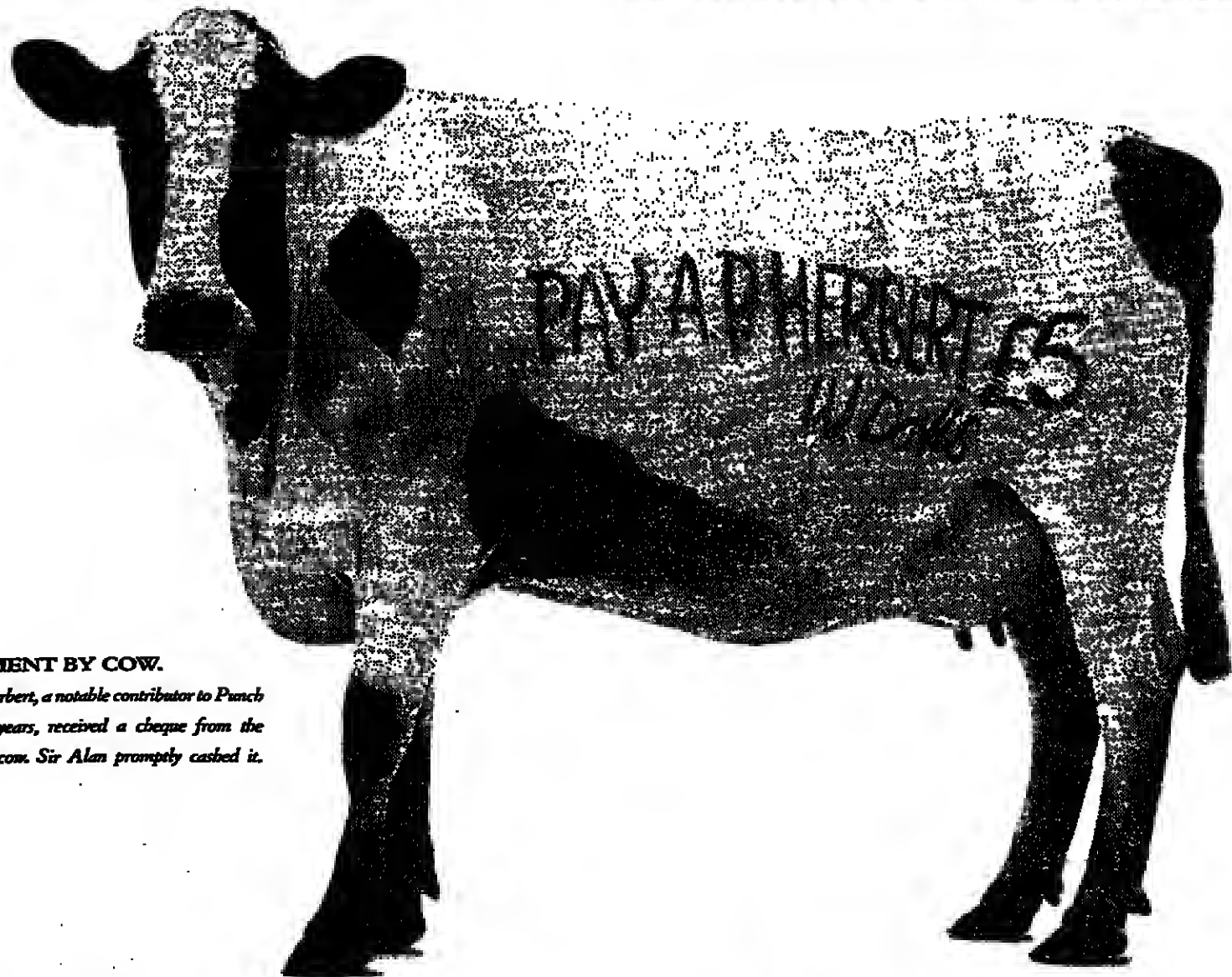
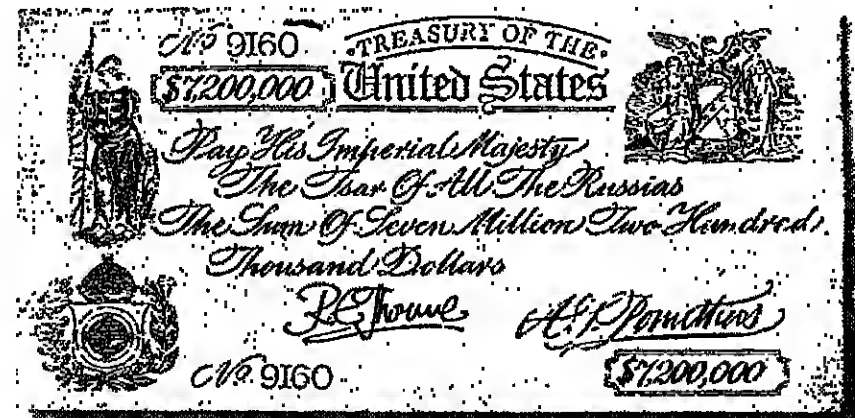


THE SMOKER'S CHEQUE.

In 1962 a donation of 10 guineas was made to the R.A.F. Benevolent Fund, written on the back of a cigarette pack. The cheque was honoured by the bank.

FOR SALE: ALASKA.

In March 1867, Russia sold the whole of its colony in Alaska to the United States. Payment was made by a single cheque for the sum of \$7,200,000.



PAYMENT BY COW.

In 1970 Sir Alan Herbert, a notable contributor to Punch magazine for sixty years, received a cheque from the editor written on a cow. Sir Alan promptly cashed it.

Sudan war deaths

Khartoum (Reuters) — Hundreds of people are feared dead in resurgent tribal warfare in western Sudan, and scores of villages have been burnt down. Newspapers here report up to 800 killed in the remote southern province of Darfur last week, and the official Sudan news agency said that police and army reinforcements were being sent in. Darfur, known as Sudan's "Wild West", has been in turmoil for years because of fighting between Fur tribesmen and nomads of Arab descent.

MPs protest

Karachi — About 40 members of the national and the Sind provincial assemblies belonging to the Mohajir Quomi Movement, protested against the Sindh Government, taking the party nearer a final split with the ruling Pakistan People's Party.

Curfew lifted

Belgrade (Reuters) — Authorities in Yugoslavia's Kosovo province are to lift a curfew imposed in March after ethnic Albanian riots.

Britons killed

Athens (Reuters) — Mr Martin Phillips, aged 23, and his wife Julie, 24, from Hertfordshire, were killed by a car as they crossed a road in Crete.

Skeleton find

Lagos (AFP) — The skeleton of a man buried about 11,000 years ago has been found in south-western Nigeria.

MiG returns

Ankara (Reuters) — A MiG29 fighter, landed in Turkey by a Soviet defector, has been taken back to the Soviet Union. The wounded pilot is in hospital in Trahzon.

Killer mud

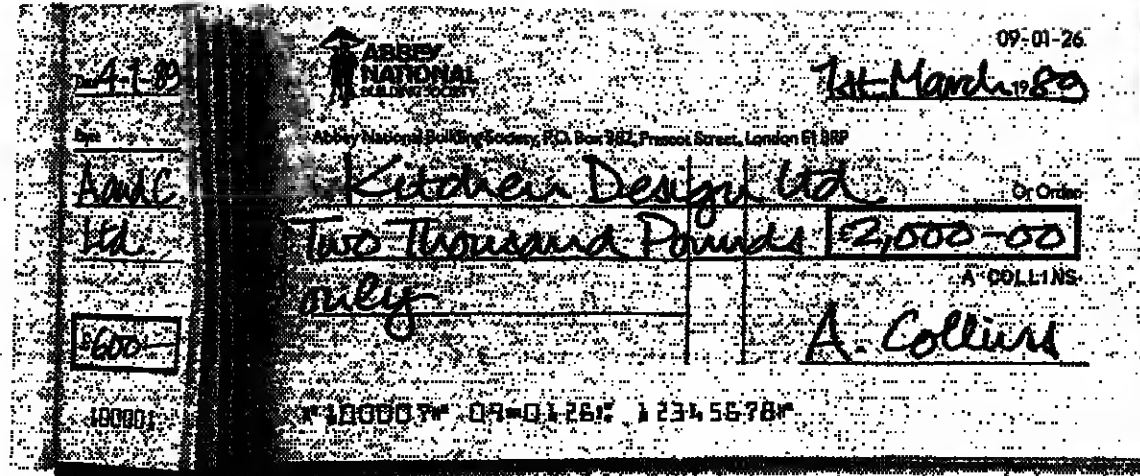
Rio de Janeiro (AP) — Three days of mudslides have killed 58 people and left more than 3,500 others homeless in Salvador in Brazil's north-east.

Strike bound

Helsinki (Reuters) — More than 400 tourists on a Baltic Sea cruise, most of them British, were stranded in Finland by a seamen's pay strike.

Prophet falls

Johannesburg (AFP) — Mr Danie du Toit, a South African businessman, choked to death, apparently on a peppermint, moments after saying in a speech that death could come at any time.



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£10000-£24999	8.65%
£25000+	9.15%

HIGH INTEREST CHEQUE ACCOUNT



SPECTRUM

From bomb site to boom state

West Germany celebrates its fortieth birthday tomorrow. For one generation of the Klasen family, it brings memories of a country gradually reduced to rubble; for another, it represents the time it took to build a successful state. Ian Murray talked to both generations in their homes in Stammheim, just across the Rhine from central Cologne, which 40 years ago lay in ruins and which today represents the rebirth of the country

When Johannes Klasen and his bride Gisela were married, they drove away from the ceremony in a battered Opel. It was 1950 and the Federal Republic was just one year old. Their little car was almost the only thing they had in the world... that and their memories of a Germany they had watched as it followed the Nazis to devastation.

A quarter of a century later their son, Heinz-Peter, was driving away from his wedding in a Mercedes into another Germany: a country overflowing with material riches, but already starting to concern itself with where its obsessive materialism was leading.

The story of the father and the son, the generations that have spanned the two Germanys, started in the little village on the slopes of the Siebengebirge, near Cologne, where Johannes Klasen was born in the summer of 1920. Like any son of a good Catholic family, he went to the local church school, but when he was 10 his father decided he should have a better education to prepare him

for a medical career, and he sent him off to the Beethoven Gymnasium in Bonn.

Politics do not seem to have penetrated the family home, but even so the 10-year-old was struck by the meetings organized on Saturday evenings in the local dance hall alternatively by the Communist and the National Socialist parties. "I remember it was mostly the working class who went along. The Rhineland was under French occupation then, and the workers were rebelling against it. But our family didn't get involved at all."

At school in Bonn, however, it was not long before he became aware of the influence of the Nazis within the walls of an institution where the teaching had been traditionally left to the monks. A party headmaster was put in charge and the classes were divided into an A stream for the Nazi boys, who turned up in uniform, and a B stream for the non-Nazis.

As a staunch Roman Catholic, he found himself in the B stream along with two Jewish boys "who suddenly just didn't turn up one day". His other main memories

are of the parades and the parties and the fireworks when party leaders visited.

His schooling finished as the war was breaking out and eventually he found himself in a classic Catch-22: he did not want to join the Hitler Youth or do any military training, but unless he did so he would not be allowed to train as a doctor. As a medical student within the army, however, he was allowed to wear civilian clothes.

"That was a great privilege," Gisela, the girl who was to become his wife, was feeling just the opposite at that time. She grew up in Wolfenbüttel in Lower Saxony, also in a strong Catholic family.

"My father was very political and a founder member of the CDU (Christian Democratic Union). He had membership card number 13. He was too good a

Catholic to let me join the Nazi girls' organization, and I hated that. There were just seven of us who were not members and we had to sit in the corner doing knitting and things like that while all the others in the Bund Deutscher Mädel had uniforms and played games and did exciting things."

"Eventually, in 1938 when I was 12, I was allowed to join. I was so

proud in my uniform, so very, very proud and happy to be able to join in with all the other girls."

The euphoria did not survive very long into the war. The white blouse and black neckcloth of the uniform were laid aside as her family faced increasing hardship. "By the end we had nothing. No food. No bed. No furniture."

The Americans liberated the town. She remembers leaning out of the window of their empty house as the GIs marched in. One of them lobbed a piece of chocolate up to the pretty girl at the window with a tennis racket. The house became the sergeant's mess. Marshall aid arrived early in Wolfenbüttel.

The war's end found Johannes on the Eastern Front. He had qualified as a doctor three weeks before Hitler died in the bunker on April 30 and he had then been sent

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The war's end found Johannes on the Eastern Front. He had qualified as a doctor three weeks before Hitler died in the bunker on April 30 and he had then been sent

on his first posting. "When I heard it was over, I said, 'Thank God, now I can go home.' With two heavy suitcases he set off west."

"I saw many German soldiers in uniform just sitting, waiting to be imprisoned. I told them to take off their uniforms and leave, but they were so used to taking orders that they just sat there and waited."

When he returned to the Siebengebirge, he found his home gone — hit by a bomb which destroyed most of his possessions, including the photograph albums. With only his qualification to help, he set about rebuilding the family fortunes.

It was only after the war, when he read the stories coming out of the Nuremberg trials, that he realized the nature and scale of the atrocities perpetrated by the Nazis. "The fact that Hitler was a criminal was something I found out afterwards. I was shocked, but I do not feel any sense of collective guilt. After all, this was not something for which my generation was responsible. We had no influence, and I was never interested in politics."

He remembers the day the Federal Republic came into being not as a great political event but as a sign that soon there would be an end to rationing. "The military laws went. You could have a glass of wine with your friends. That was wonderful."

When he met and married Gisela he had the small Opel car and not much else. He found a job with a chemical firm in Bonn because he was not allowed to practise as an ear, nose and throat specialist. Heinz-Peter, their first son, was born in 1955. Twelve years later he had a brother.

"In between, we just worked and worked and worked," Gisela says. "We hadn't time or money for more children then."

Heinz-Peter remembers going into Cologne in 1960, aged five. "Everything was bombed and there were only a few pillars and rotting bits of wood. The boys used to climb about in the ruins looking for souvenirs. I did, too — although my father never knew. Looking at Cologne today you would never believe what a ruin it was just that short time ago."

Along with the country's wealth, the family fortune grew. There were holidays in the sun and Heinz-Peter qualified as a doctor when he was 23.

He remembers being taught little about the war when at school, but, unlike his parents, whose chief interest today outside work is golf, he is highly political.

While his parents remember with gratitude the American aid which helped to put the country on its feet (although they are clear that it was their own hard work which brought great prosperity), he is concerned about where the American connection and the prosperity are leading.

Although the country is wealthy, changing work requirements are creating impoverished areas. In Mülheim, where he practises, factories have closed, unemployment has soared and Turkish "guest workers" are increasingly resented. He worries about the political consequences.

He is even more concerned about international strategies and very sure of Germany's central role in the future of East-West relations. "We are a gravitational centre in Europe," he says.

"There is a trend now for Germans to say the Russians are better friends than the Americans. And why not? The United States is 10,000 kilometres away and Moscow is not so far. This is your neighbour and you have to speak to him, even if you do not like him."

For Heinz-Peter, it is not weapons but democracy that defends his country and that is pushing back the frontiers of communism. It is in this context that he looks forward to a kind of reunited Germany in which borders scarcely exist. It is a reunification within a kind of regionalized Europe, with different languages and traditions but common goals.

"I don't mind whether we have the same flag or not as long as we have the same freedoms. We can do it without a war. We have learnt and we know now there is no reason to bring down the world."

Ambridge off-cuts

There was more behind Grace Archer's death than perfect timing, says the man who marked her card

"For Sale" sign leans like a weary sentry outside a house named Ambridge: his Gloucestershire inventor of *The Archers* has fallen victim to housing market blight.

Godfrey Baseley, a stocky countryman with eyes of speedwell blue, is finally leaving his home of 25 years. But the seemingly innocuous octogenarian, whose voice is as warm and rough as a field scratching post, is the same man who killed Grace Archer and rocked Britain's air waves in 1955.

Clearing the attic of memory, he admits a previously

hidden reason why she had to die. Call it his personal tribute to the 10,000th episode of the BBC radio serial that goes out on Friday.

Grace Archer's demise was certainly a brilliant scene stealer, to coincide with the launch day of commercial television, but Baseley had been plotting to rid his precious programme of an actress he perceived, at the time, as a potential union activist. He decided to save his embryonic, low-budget serial from total Equity membership to continue employing talented amateurs... and save on the salary bill.

"In that sense she died for

nothing," says Baseley, 85 in October, whose activities these days are no more Machiavellian than pottering around his Gloucestershire home on his tricycle. "I later became an Equity member myself."

Yet, far from feeling regret, the editor of *The Archers* for 22 years admits he kicks himself daily for not having finished off Phil Archer at the same time. He is convinced he bungled the stable fire which claimed the fair Grace, Phil's first bride. "It was the biggest mistake I ever made," he growls. "Phil should have died in the fire too. Or I should have recast him long before. A tenor can be a lead in opera



Country tales: Godfrey Baseley's Ambridge reflected reality

but, for a drama serial, you need a bass or baritone to lend authority — like Harry Oakes who played the first Dan Archer. But after that...

The official line was also that Grace's death (in Phil's arms in an ambulance) stopped the story line seizing up which, Baseley insists,

now, perhaps, with seven and a half million daily listeners in a kind of no-women's land between editors Liz Rigby, departed, and Ruth Patterson, recently ennobled.

Baseley claims not to listen these days. "I just can't connect," he says, not referring to his ageing faculties but balking in credulity at the types oozing peopling Ambridge. "This character with corks dangling from his hat — I never met anyone like him in the country," he snorts. Just after the war, Baseley's Ambridge reflected real country living in a programme designed to provide entertainment, information and education.

"The original pattern of *The Archers* no longer exists," says its exasperated creator. "It's a soap born of a programme I devised to talk to small farming communities."

As a rural programme baffle for BBC Midlands, he wondered how farmers could

reap a new agrarian revolution after release from the war-time yoke of the Min of Ag. "We look over our neighbour's hedge and, if he's doing all right, we follow him," was one farmer's reply. A programme dutifully appeared "over a neighbour's hedge" in company with Gwilym Williams, progressive and respected Shropshire farmer and future National Farmers' Union president, who died this month.

If Baseley were to give advice on the current *Archers* chaos it would be to get back to the basic core of eight main characters. His formula had the vital elements of patriarch and family, young lovers, mature lovers — to add spice — with someone to hate in the form of Mrs Perkins and comedy in the shape of Walter Gabriel.

Amazingly, even the on-fortunate Grace does not bear a grudge. "It was a courageous way to die, rescuing horses,"

says actress Yvonne Churchill, refining agitprop. "It's the first I've heard of my Equity membership causing problems," she claims, and points out that other professionals actors in the cast would also have carried Equity cards.

Now in demand for voice-over work in commercials and cartoon films, plus children's parts and general radio drama, Churchill says: "I loved my time at *The Archers* but I wasn't all that upset to leave. It's like a run in the theatre. You consider you are doing quite well to get a three and a half year run, as I did."

But the actress (who returned to Ambridge to play eccentric farmer Mary Pound for 13 years from 1970) has not been invited to the BBC celebrations to mark Friday's milestone. Perhaps Jill Archer — now married to Phil — does not want Grace alone.

Sandy Bisp

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Long struggle for a church's soul

When the Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay of Clashfern, faces his judges at the Synod of the Free Presbyterian Church in Inverness on Wednesday, he will not be the only one on trial. For Mackay's appeal against his suspension as a church elder for attending the Roman Catholic requiem masses of two friends brings to a head what has become a growing rift between opposing factions of Free Presbyterians.

On one side are the hardliners led by the Clerk of Synod, the Rev Donald MacLean, aged 75, a Glaswegian and former chartered accountant. They strictly uphold the extreme Calvinistic traditions of the church (known popularly as the Wee Frees) and support Mackay's suspension last November.

On the other are the moderates represented by Synod members the Rev Robert Sinclair of Wick, aged 90, and the Rev Alexander Murray, aged 63, of Laing, who reject the "authoritarian attitude" of the hardliners and hope to see Mackay's appeal upheld.

"I think they've overstepped the mark this time," Murray says. "We are supposed to be Protestants and the Reformation got us away from that sort of canon law

but some of them have been slipping back into it."

He blames the pressures on being "a small denomination and getting smaller", which gives rise to the belief among hardliners that "we are not faithful enough and must keep ourselves pure".

Such views infuriate some of his colleagues, who reject the ecumenical movement because, as MacLean explains, they believe it would result in "the religion of the lowest common denominator. We believe that standards should rise, not fall."

MacLean attributes the falling congregations — there are estimated to be between 6,000 and 7,000 Free Presbyterians — to the growth of "secularism and materialism" in the world, and sees a spiritual revival as the only hope for the future.

Formed in 1893 by break-away ministers from the Free Church of Scotland, the Free Presbyterian Church adheres strictly to the Bible and to the Westminster Declaration of Faith drawn up in 1643 by an Assembly of Divines in London. There are 32 congregations in Scotland, a couple in England and a handful in Canada, Australia

Judgement day is nigh for Lord Mackay as the Wee Frees debate his suspension



Did he sin? Lord Mackay

and New Zealand, as well as some missions in Africa.

Free Presbyterians consider the Pope to be the anti-Christ and the Roman Catholic mass idolatrous. Their faith is pure and simple; as sabbatarians, Sunday is a day of prayer and rest. Shoes are cleaned, meals prepared and men shave on Saturday evening.

The question of how scrupulously the scriptures should be interpreted and upheld is a matter of controversy within the church, and one with which Alasdair Fraser has had experience. Fraser, aged 31, a broker from Inverness and life-long Free Presbyterian, was turned down for full membership of the church because he is a member of a golf club which opens on Sundays — though he never plays golf on the sabbath.

Alexander Murray, a former Moderator (twice) of the church and a minister for more than 30 years, was disciplined last year after suggesting that he and the four other members of a Highland Regional Council meeting on religious education each begin the proceedings with a prayer. When it emerged that he had included the Roman Catholic member the Synod suspended him for three months.

Murray believes that much of the acrimony within the church is the result of the hardliners in the Synod losing by two votes a motion — which he had proposed — to reinstate a minister who had been suspended.

In his opinion, the numbers of hardliners are decreasing

and he hopes the church will become "more sensible and take more note of what is going on in the world".

In the Outer Hebrides, where Free Presbyterianism is frequently at its most rigid, many of the women still wear long dresses and their uncut hair in a bun. Some ministers refuse to marry brides in white, and music and television is frowned upon.

"I wouldn't expect any member professing godliness in my congregation to be watching programmes on television that are morally debasing," says the Rev John McLeod, aged 58, of Stornoway. "And by that I include American soap operas."

He denies what he sees as the popular view of Free Presbyterians "as Pharisees", and was incensed to read a newspaper report suggesting that they condemn packaged porridge and bottled milk. McLeod would be sad if any of his six children left the church, but he acknowledges that "it is very difficult for young people today. They are exposed to so many influences and temptations. There are no moral absolutes any more."

Sally Brompton

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AEA TECHNOLOGY

Beating down the barriers

Sergeant Colette Paul helped set up Britain's first police domestic violence unit. Now the idea is spreading, as Liz Gill discovered

Everyone stereotypes battered women — even battered women. They come in to see police sergeant Colette Paul with their smashed faces and bruised bodies and say: "I'm not one of those, you know."

Popular wisdom holds that they should be down-trodden drabs, helpless punchbag victims of the rage of a particularly low-life kind of man. Paul does not share this view. For a start, she never uses the word "victim" — "with all its connotations of powerlessness".

"Many of them are very strong women and very brave. They are survivors. We tend to think of it as a working-class problem or a problem of colour or culture, but believe me, it cuts across all classes, all types. I've seen doctors' wives and businessmen's wives and policemen's wives. I've seen a professional career woman beaten up by her computer-executive husband simply because she was more successful than he was."

It was to help such women — and to change attitudes — that Paul and her colleague, WPC Annette O'Reilly, set up the first domestic violence unit in a British police station, at Tottenham in north London. Their work is the subject of a documentary in the BBC's *Inside Story* series called "Partners in Crime", which will be shown next week.

In its first year it dealt with a thousand incidents. "And that's just one station. We are looking at the tip of the iceberg," Paul says. Her views are reinforced by a BBC *Panorama* special tonight. Called "Punching Judy", it reveals a series of horrifying statistics in the London area alone 100,000 women a year need medical treatment after violence in the home; the average number of beatings for those admitted to refuge is 35. In England and Wales, 20 per cent of murdered women are killed by their partners.

Paul's own cases make a harrowing catalogue: women not only pummelled with fists and kicked, but burned with cigarettes and irons, beaten with chairs, pans, even a vacuum cleaner. It is hard, she says, to convey the perpetual terror of living in a house where anything can become an offensive weapon.

"They get a lot of stress-related health problems. They find themselves always on the lookout for the warning signs. Sometimes there will be no obvious reason. The man will be fine one minute, then he will just turn and beat her to a pulp."

"You may also get constant mental cruelty, which is hard to evaluate. We had one case where a man was trying to

convince his wife that she was mad. He would hide all her things in odd places, put her handbag in the fridge and so on."

Paul and O'Reilly founded the Tottenham unit in the summer of 1987 in the wake of a report from Scotland Yard which spoke of the need for "constructive and compassionate advice", and they incorporated some of its recommendations: interviews by a female officer, follow-up visits and use of places of safety such as refuges.

Paul and O'Reilly worked closely with other agencies and began collating information to build up a continuing picture of a relationship. On each occasion they would get statements and medical evidence. This meant that although a woman might be unwilling to press charges initially, if she did reach a point of wanting to go to court there would be a body of evidence against the man: there is no time limit on assault.

Though Paul acknowledges there may be one-off attacks, most domestic violence in her experience follows a downward path — the slap becomes a punch, the punch a kick, the kicks augmented by weapons.

The women, too, may follow a pattern: disbelief at what's happened and a conviction that the man will change — "there's a getting back together period which is very nice and then the cycle starts again" — followed by distrust and despair and a need to seek help.

Rarely does Paul see a first assault — "the women are usually at the end of their tether by the time they see us. It's a hard thing to admit: women feel ashamed and isolated and guilty."

Even then there is a marked reluctance to prosecute; or, having embarked on such a course, there is a tendency to pull out at the last moment, a feature highlighted in the forthcoming *Inside Story* programme, and one which probably accounts for some of the apparent weariness of the older officers in contrast to the vigorous commitment of Paul and O'Reilly.

Paul admits it is frustrating when a woman backs out of a prosecution but is adamant that the choice must be the woman's. Only once has the unit been tempted to use the Police and Criminal Evidence Act to compel someone to give evidence and that was a case in which a woman's spleen had been ruptured in a vicious attack. In the end she gave evidence voluntarily.

Astonishingly, she had married the man after another assault, almost as severe. "We thought she was mad,



Championing a cause: on-leave police sergeant Colette Paul dispenses advice and sympathy

'Women feel ashamed and isolated and guilty'

so did her family, but what can you do?" Paul asks. "She loves him and he promises her the earth."

Paul has no truck with any suggestion that women like violence: "They may be drawn to a particular kind of man, a macho type, for want of a better word. But I've never come across a single woman who enjoyed being beaten." And she sees alcohol as an "enabler" rather than the reason for violence.

Apart from one old man who became aggressive after an industrial accident affected his mental stability, she has never felt a shred of sympathy for the perpetrators. "Perhaps that's a failing in me. But I see them as cowards and bullies," she says.

Paul never advises women to modify their behaviour: both active resistance and increased passivity are likely to exacerbate the situation. "Besides, why should they? The fault is not theirs."

What she does tell them is to get out. "I do get very worried for their safety and sometimes it's the only prevention. "She may lose her home, her possessions, her friends, his side of the family whom she may get on well with. The children may have to move school, they may have to live in a bed-and-breakfast. She is the one who is being punished."

Paul says that one of the biggest tasks is to give back sufferers a sense of self-est

them, but admits that she is neither a trained counsellor nor social worker, and that as a police officer her aim is to prevent the crime or catch the criminal.

Nevertheless, she is not convinced that imprisonment is always the answer: it might save one woman but when the man is free again there will be others — "we've had one who has beaten up five girlfriends."

She has never suffered violence in a relationship, but adds: "I think it can happen to any woman. You like to imagine you wouldn't fall into that trap, that you could get out if necessary, but I do know how hard it is to leave a relationship."

There are now 14 domestic violence units within the Metropolitan Police area based on the Tottenham model, and Paul would like to see more, backed up by greater resources in the community.

At the age of 29, she has taken a year's study leave to work towards a doctorate at Kent University. The study will look at domestic violence and try to assess the success of her unit's work — from the point of view of both victims and the police.

Attitudes do seem to be changing. Since the Met's directive to its officers to treat assaults in the home in the same way as they would assaults in the street, arrests have risen by 86 per cent and

reports of offences by 142 per cent.

At the same time, Paul says, there still lingers the idea that the Englishman's home is his castle and not the domain of the police.

Eventually, she hopes, the public will be more willing to come forward and report suspected cases.

"It's not interfering. It's simply saying it's wrong. If everyone thought it was wrong, there'd be a lot less of it."

Panorama: "Punching Judy", BBC1, tonight, 9.25pm. Inside Story: "Partners in Crime", BBC1, May 31, 9.30pm.

Environmentalists turn to the bottle

Today Sheffield becomes Britain's first Recycling City with the launch of a campaign to put plastic waste to good use

If, like me, you lugged black sacks out to the wheelie bins this morning after a typical family weekend, it will not surprise you to learn that, on average, we all throw away 10 times our own body weight in household refuse every year.

Nor, if the contents of your bins are anything like ours — supermarket bags, soft drink bottles and various other forms of packaging — will you be particularly amazed to hear that of the 20 million tonnes of rubbish we discard nationally a year, 2.5 million tonnes are plastic.

As plastic is a non-renewable resource, mostly petroleum based, the waste inherent in throwing such large amounts away is causing concern. A radical solution, such as banning the use of any plastic packaging, would bring its own problems. As the *Green Consumer Guide* points out, we would then be faced with the prospect of domestic refuse, composed largely of paper and cardboard, doubling in volume and increasing in weight four-fold.

Nevertheless, everyone agrees that something has to be done to tackle Britain's growing plastic waste mountain. Today, in what is described as an innovative national environmental scheme, aimed at establishing four cities as models of effective co-ordinated recycling, Sheffield becomes Britain's first "recycling city".

The second will be Cardiff. The third and fourth have yet to be chosen. The key to the scheme is recycled plastics. The British Soft Drinks Association has provided 20 orange-coloured containers to which consumers can return transparent plastic soft drink bottles; the British Plastics Federation has provided a further five containers at civic amenities sites for non-transparent plastic bottles. Up to 10,000 households will be given a green bin, in which to put cans, plastic drinks containers and glass bottles. The bins will be collected weekly by a special lorry and taken away for sorting.

The funding for this pilot project has been high. British Telecom is sponsoring it to the tune of £20,000 and UK 2000 has made a grant of £20,000.

The reclamation industries are investing about £90,000 and the local authorities and Friends of the Earth a further £10,000 and £5,000 respectively.

One of the aims is to study the economics of large-scale recycling schemes. Some companies in this country already recycle plastics, but these are largely from industrial sources. The challenge now is to collect enough domestic plastic waste to make its recycling economically viable.

The alternative — putting waste into landfill sites — is expensive says Trewin Restorick, a spokesman for Friends of the Earth. "The Department of the Environment says it costs £9 a tonne, not including transport, and in London some authorities have to transport their waste 60 miles. As sites run out, so costs go up."

Friends of the Earth want local authorities to pay waste-collecting businesses a recycling rebate — a set rate for every tonne that does not have to go to a landfill site. Sheffield has agreed to do so in

'It will never be possible to recycle all the plastic. But we will be able to reclaim a lot'

principle: the council has yet to work out how much landfill space a tonne of plastic would take up, but expects the rates to be between £2 and £5.

Even if the money for this can be found, however, many questions remain unanswered. A huge problem, for example, is finding ways to segregate the large number of plastics in use. What does the consumer keep to recycle, and what does he or she consign to the ordinary dustbin?

At least the plastic bottle bank schemes, while representing just the tip of the plastic mountain, have the virtue of relative simplicity. But earlier projects to reclaim the squigly polyethylene terephthalate (PET) drinks bottles proved that people often return other types of plastic bottles as well. Even so, they could be cost-

effective, according to Jeff Cooper, who works for the London Waste Regulation Authority and is chair of the committee which developed the recycling city idea. "In the lower Rhône the French have just launched Operation Pelican to see whether the economics of plastics reclamation do stack up," he says. "The aim is to collect 50 million polyvinyl chloride (PVC) bottles from banks at civic amenity sites, at schools and through house-to-house collecting in some areas. The bottles will be shredded, any labelling removed, and then they will be made into a powder which can be fed with other fresh PVC material into a moulding machine, to emerge as sewage pipes."

"Provided they've made the right assumptions, they will be saving money compared with using fresh PVC material for the same job."

Cooper is optimistic about another initiative in which the British Plastics Federation, as part of a joint business venture with the city council, is setting up a plastics processing unit in Sheffield. Anyone, from individuals to charities, will be able to sell all kinds of plastic waste which will then be sorted, shredded and processed before being sold to plastics reclaimers.

But even this involves some co-operation on part of the consumer. In the long term, the answer may lie in the kind of technology which can separate plastics from ordinary domestic wastes at the municipal rubbish dumps.

Trials of this kind of equipment are to begin soon in Greater Manchester, and Alicia Clegg, the environmental projects manager of the BPF, is enthusiastic about the possibilities.

"If companies can be assured of getting a good quantity of plastics at an economic price, then they will be more likely to make the investment in the technology. There are companies poised to do this now. It will never be possible to recycle 100 per cent of the plastic in your dustbin. But in the not-so-distant future we will be able to reclaim an awful lot of it. What is happening now are the important first steps."

Lee Rodwell

Sense and oversensitivity

There is a lot of fun to be had in fighting sexism with ridicule, and a few years ago a smart woman photographer raised a giggle by adding witty words to billboard advertisements.

"If this car were a woman she'd run you over" was her response to a hoarding that tried to sell a motor car with a lot of throbbing machismo and rude innuendo; it is the graffiti one remembers rather than the official advertising copy.

It was a terrific wheeze and lacked the over-earnestness often associated with women's rights. Unfortunately, the rewriting on the wall has now been taken over by people who see sexism wherever they look and take offence where none is intended.

One group of defectors has gone professional and marches about in smart white overalls — it seems that nobody will ever challenge a woman in a white overall, even if she is altering a hoarding in case she turns out

to be a psychiatrist or a fish-monger — and wreaks havoc with property printed captions rather than wobbly sprayed-on lettering.

Their latest effort involved that compelling advertisement which shows a woman trailing a fur coat and states, "It takes 40 dumb animals to make a fur coat... but only one to wear it", a campaign that has probably done more for wildlife than David Bellamy.

But it has upset the white-coated ones. They have now added to the hoarding: "Capital abuse: skinning animals — pelting women."

This is, to say the least, over-sensitive and, to say the most, blind to the facts of life. As far as I know, very few men, apart from the late Liberace, swish around in mink and ermine.

An expensive fur coat was, until conservationists sunk their claws into the fur trade, a status symbol that gave a touch of class almost exclusively to women. Long, long ago when a woman's work was measured by the kind of male company she kept, she scored extra points if her mink was a gift from an ardent admirer. Nearer to our own times, the fur coat was a sign of a woman's own brilliant career. Professional women, instead

of having their initials embroidered on the linings of their animal skins, tended to have the words "I bought it myself" worked prettily in chain-stitch.

Furriers, like diamond merchants and the makers of diet foods, rely on women to hanker after their wares, and if you wish to point out that these wares are questionable then it is to women you must appeal. It is a very unfair world if you can't express your point of view without ladies in white coats accusing you of hating them.

Ever since I can remember I have complained bitterly about the daffy housewife-heroine of television commercials — she who gets her kicks from inhaling the fragrance of her fabric conditioner — and the basis of my complaint has been that this view of women is daft. Most of us are too busy to go around sniffing our dishcloths and should not be made to feel guilty that this is so. On the other hand, there is a case to be made that perhaps women should be made to feel guilty about wearing furs.

The defectors of the anti-fur hoarding would seem to be suggesting that women are above reproach, should not be made to feel guilty about

anything, must never be criticized, made to feel uncomfortable, made to question their values.

If you take this point of view much further there will be nowhere for women to go except to climb back on the pedestal where generations of men once put them because it was thought they were too fragile to put their feet on the ground. Too much delicacy of feelings is as unproductive as too much acquiescence, and I wish the women in white coats would call it a day, just as I wish other emotional little flowers would stop regarding a friendly hug from a male colleague as sexual harassment.

There is enough trouble out there without going around looking for it, and while in an ideal world men would be tinglingly aware of the feminine condition, and Benny Hill would clean up his act a bit, I do not think men should have to go around feeling that they have to make treading on eggs a way of life in case a rough word brings on a case of the female vapours.

Instead of altering well-meaning hoardings, female vigilantes would be better employed learning car maintenance so that they could force the closure off all those garages where the mechanics hang up calendars featuring models of improbable and insulting measurements.

A MAJOR SKY NEWS INVESTIGATION

CRACK

We find danger drug on Britain's streets

IN America, children kill for a fix of the drug Crack. Now it has hit the streets of Britain. A Sky News team has seen Crack bought and used in London. Tonight in a major Newsline investigation, presenter John Stapleton talks to police, Customs and drugs experts. Newsline reveals the disturbing truth. And the experts warn that Crack must be stopped. Before it is too late.



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TIMES DIARY

SHERIDAN MORLEY

Those "RSC in Crisis" headlines that followed Terry Hands's resignation may have to be rewritten after the announcement tomorrow of an immensely impressive summer season at both its Barbican and Stratford homes. In London there's to be a John Wood trilogy, starting with the transfer of his Stratford Prospero from last season; he then opens as Sheridan Whiteside (the character who gave me my name, but that's another story) in Kaufman and Hart's comedy about Alexander Woolcott. *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, and he then goes into rehearsal for a *Master Builder* with Joanne Pearce from *The Ploughmen*.

Back by the Avon, Trevor Nunn returns to the company for the first time in three years to direct an *Orlando* starring Willard White from his recent Glyndebourne *Porgy and Bess* with Ian McKellen as lago and Imogen Stubbs as Desdemona. The production will mark the RSC's farewell to the Other Place before moving into the Young Vic in August, precisely the route taken by Nunn and McKellen 10 years ago with a sensationally successful *Macbeth*. *Orlando* was talked of then, but it wasn't until *Porgy* that Nunn found his men and decided to make his RSC return, thereby fuelling speculation that he may also take up the reins again as artistic director.

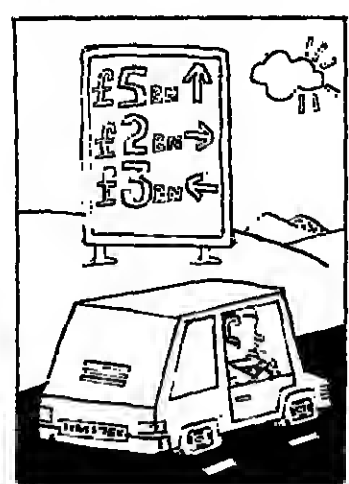
Insider money is still on Adrian Noble for that role, however, though public advertisements of the post will soon appear in the national press. Whoever gets the job — and they are talking of a truly open contest — will inherit a very strong company.

One of the few movie stories not to have been noised abroad at Cannes this year is that Jean-Luc Godard has at last consented to an authorized biography. The lucky author is Colin McCabe, head of production at the British Film Institute, though suggestions of a £250,000 advance are said by Bloomsbury to be "hugely inflated". McCabe has already written enthusiastically of his subject in an earlier academic volume. Hopefully this one will not be known as *Waiting for Godard*.

After the fulsome tributes paid to the late Lucille Ball over the last few weeks, you might like to look her up in the index to Melvyn Bragg's recent biography of Richard Burton. There, in direct quotation from Burton's own journals, you will find a vitriolic attack which might well have been subtitled *I Hate Lucy* and was written at a time when, low in their movie careers, Burton and Elizabeth Taylor were having times may on her infinitely long-running television series. "I loathe Miss Ball today, but I also now pity her," wrote Burton "and after tonight I shall make a point of never seeing her again... she can thank her lucky stars that I am not drinking, or there is a chance that I might have killed her."

With Miss Ball now out of reach of the law courts, it will be interesting to see if the paperback reprint of *Rich* includes other references to her in the journal which, during her lifetime, the libel lawyers are said to have rejected out of hand.

BARRY FANTONI



All congratulations to the starry cast who last week topped the billboards and got £1 million of government money for preserving the glory of the Rose. But would they now like to campaign for such supposedly live and 20th-century theatres as the Court Upstairs, the Baylis and the Bristol and Young Vic studios, all of which are either already closed or in imminent danger of closing as anything more than receiving houses because there is simply no production money available? True, Chichester has managed to buck the trend by opening this weekend its non-subsidized Minerva studio as an experimental alternative to the traditionally conservative (not to say antediluvian) programming of the main stage, but in most other parts of the country studio theatres are threatened as never before.

Maybe if we tore them down and turned them into archaeological sites we could get the otherwise elusive Arts Council cash to build them up again as live playhouses. At least no one is likely to stage an anti-Thatcher drama in the middle of a dig. Unless of course you count what happened at the Rose.

Give or take a hundred people, there were 483 of us in the last carriage of the Metropolitan Line train from Baker Street to Wembley Park, all standing quite close to each other. The temperature outside was 75°; in the train it was much warmer, but there had been a couple of dozen apprehensive-looking policemen on the platform when we left — which gave us a feeling of security.

Here we go, here we go, here we go, squashed into an area intended for six. Above them was a message from London Transport poetry: a few lines of Chaucer about the gentle summer — for moral uplift. A glassy-eyed, bare-chested man, whose trousers had slipped down from his waist and were held only by the very last hulk of his buttocks, was slumped against the door and as

During his visit this week, Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Prime Minister, will try to prevent any move towards British recognition of the PLO. He will argue that it is premature to give any credence to Yasser Arafat's promises that the PLO will refrain from terrorism.

The Israeli argument is straightforward. In June 1974 the PLO formally adopted its "strategy of stages" by which a Palestinian state would be established on any land evacuated by the Israelis. Subsequent stages would enlarge the Palestinian state until it subsumed all of contemporary Israel as well as the West Bank.

But the PLO also made it clear that these stages were to be achieved *without a price tag*. It would not recognize Israel in return for any withdrawal, nor would it give up the "right of return". This right of return is crucial to the notion of a Jewish state: half a million Arabs fled Israel in 1948 and form the core of present PLO support. Today they probably number over a million. For Israel to agree to take them back would be like Britain agreeing to accept 15 million potential IRA supporters. The PLO is still adamant about the right of return.

The strategy of stages has been complemented by increasingly moderate statements by Arafat. The first was made in Cairo on November 7, 1985, after the hijacking of the Italian cruise ship, the Achille Lauro, by four Palestinians who murdered an elderly, crippled American passenger. The hijackers were members of a group directly financed by Arafat's own Al Fatah movement. As shock waves mounted, Arafat specifically renounced terrorism outside occupied Arab land. But the Israelis point to dozens of subsequent terrorist incidents specifically linked to Arafat. They include:

● April 2, 1986: The bombing of a TWA airliner en route from Rome to Athens by the Hawari Apparatus group. This is headed by Abdallah Mahmud Labib, a confidant of Arafat. Hawari members have been found guilty of terrorist activities in various European countries and sentenced in absentia.

● August 22, 1986: Four Hawari members arrested in Morocco admitted to planning acts of terrorism against Jewish targets during a visit by the Israeli Foreign Minister, Shimon Peres. ● July 22, 1987: In London, the Palestinian cartoonist Najji al-'Ali (a relentless opponent of Arafat) was murdered by terrorists of the Force 17 team. Force 17 operatives provide personal security to Arafat and senior members of Fatah. After the murder, the security officer of the PLO delegation in London fled the country.

One of the most disturbing aspects of PLO activity inside Israel is the nature of its civilian targets, which have included shopping malls (Haifa, August 1988) and school buses (March and April 1988). On October 15, 1986, four Fatah members threw hand grenades at worshippers near Jerusalem's Wailing Wall, killing one and injuring 69.

Two other statements since

the Cairo declaration have given the world hope that the PLO might be changing direction. In Geneva on December 15, 1988, Arafat renounced all forms of terrorism and appeared to recognize Israel. Hours after this, the US agreed to open talks with the PLO. Then, in France three weeks ago, Arafat declared the elimination of Israel, to be *caducue*. The word, a medieval French legal term, could mean null and void.

However, Arafat himself pointed out subsequently that he could not declare the charter void since that required a two-thirds majority of the Palestine National Council. He has not called a meeting to do this.

On May 6, the PLO's Tunis representative said that use of the word *caducue* "doesn't at all mean that the charter has been nullified, since this word has many definitions... the West may choose which one it de-

sires." More significantly, Nabil Sha'ath, a leading PLO "moderate", reaffirmed the PLO objective of "liberating" all of Palestine, including Israel, when speaking in Arabic to an Arabic audience.

Arafat's original genius was to cast himself as a quasi-moderate in his official organization and then setting up dozens of radical sub-organizations that were ostensibly totally separate and even antagonistic to the PLO. This allowed him to give the West the ultimatum that it had the choice of dealing with him or with the radicals. It is quite possible that some radical organizations did spring up independently, but Arafat's link with many, such as Black September, is no longer a matter of conjecture.

Few truly moderate Arab leaders survive. Their assassinations are entirely consistent with Arafat's recent pronouncement: "Any Palestinian leader who

suggests ending the *intifada* exposes himself to the bullets of his own people and endangers his own life. The PLO will know how to deal with him." (January 3, 1989, *Al Anba*, a Kuwaiti newspaper). One can't help feeling that Arafat himself, should he really desire peace, would by now have become the target of an assassin's bullet.

Certainly, one is puzzled by the apparent refusal of the West seriously to consider the discrepancies between Arafat's words and actions. There are, I suppose, none so blind as those who do not wish to see, particularly when seeing might well be expensive and uncomfortable.

Can the PLO change? Given the infinity of time, the sun itself will cool down. But, in so unstable a region, perhaps the only solution is an imposed peace guaranteed by all the great powers.

If anyone should be talking to the PLO, it is probably the Israelis — provided they do so in a way that does not give it legitimacy. Israel needs world opinion on its side. So, while it must be careful to give nothing away, it cannot afford to be seen as intransigent. It might try taking lessons from the copy book of chairman Arafat.

Barbara Amiel contrasts the rhetoric and the actions

Arafat's empty promises

Bernard Levin offers a prayer for the 'blame me' bishop

Right Rev who did the right thing

There is a limerick, of appalling indecency, which begins: "There was an old Bishop of Birmingham, Who would...". I do not publish it partly because I fear prosecution but more because it would not cheer up the Suffragan Bishop of Aston, the Right Reverend Colin Buchanan. And my purpose today is to cheer him up as far as is possible.

He clearly has need of such sympathy, having just resigned his episcopal office in the wake of the financial fiasco in the Birmingham diocese brought about by the monumental flop of Archbishop Tutu's tour of the area. Enormous venues were hired for the tens of thousands expected to flock to hear the archbishop; a massive campaign of publicity and advertising was ordered; huge sums were spent on making video-tapes of the events. In the event, the public stayed away in immense numbers, leaving the whole enterprise a couple of hundred thousand short of break-even. As Sam Goldwyn memorably put it: "If they are determined not to come, nothing will stop them."

I have to say that whoever imagined that 40,000 people would crowd Aston Villa's stadium to see and hear the over-exposed South African cleric needs his mitre examined; the people of Birmingham, widely believed to be pretty hard-headed folk, had heard, or read, very many times, everything he had to say, and plainly saw no good reason to stump up good money to hear it yet again.

Not only did the bishop resign;

he announced in terms which admitted of no ambiguity at all that he accepted the entire responsibility for the disaster, and that that was the reason for his resignation.

But he went still further, this extraordinary man of God; he did not "proffer" his resignation, or wonder aloud whether he was under an obligation to resign, or "put his office into the hands of his superiors". He resigned, *sans phrases*.

For that alone he should be commended, so rare is such behaviour today. The heads of London Transport, for instance, resigned when the King's Cross report was published, rather than, bishop-like, on the morrow of the disaster. And that has been the norm for more years than it is pleasant to contemplate; it goes back all the way to Aberfan, which nobody under 40 can even remember.

The procedure is fairly straightforward; the unfortunate who presided over whatever catastrophe we are discussing "lets it be known" that he has written "a letter of resignation" to his boss. The boss lets it be known, in turn, that he is "considering" the said letter. After a few days, he announces that he does not intend to "accept" the resignation and everyone in due course gets a knighthood.

But this bishop, may his gaiters never grow tight, has broken the mould. For he did not simply resign and take the phone off the hook; he declared that he, and he alone, was



responsible for everything that had gone wrong.

Now a minute's thought will make clear that that is the greatest nonsense imaginable. There must have been dozens of people in important executive positions who contributed to the disaster — some of them, quite possibly, to a greater extent than the bishop. The diocesan board could hardly have been excluded from the business side; the members of the organizing committee were unlikely to have assented automatically to everything his Grace suggested; the banks and guarantors must have had a role to play. Yet the bishop has no word of censure except for himself.

Have you ever studied the etymology of the word "vicar"?

It fits the *ex-devant* Bishop of Aston precisely. For has he not taken the sins of others on his shoulders, as well as his own? Where, now, do you find people ready to declare that some substantial failure, loss, reverse is their doing and that they insist on accepting the blame?

In politics, of course, it is virtually inescapable. Lord Young, after deafening the air for miles around with his insistence that the Harrods report could not be published because it might prejudice forthcoming legal proceedings, went on the very next day to prejudice them, and not only did he fail to admit the impropriety of his behaviour, he actually pretended that he hadn't done any such thing.

"It's all my fault," Those

words are so infrequently used today that they sound positively exotic. The gasps of astonishment that greeted the bishop's announcement grew even louder when people realized that what he actually meant was: "It is not all my fault, but I insist on accepting the part that is mine and the part of all those who share it."

I imagine that a bishop or two, over the years, has resigned for reasons other than old age or ill health; here, perhaps, one has fallen into the grip of John Barleycorn, there another has eloped with the wife of the chairman of the local brass-rubbing society. But whoever heard of a bishop resigning solely because he was nominally in charge of a festival which ended

in a gigantic financial cock-up?

Suppose it caught on! Suppose the heads of huge banking concerns which have invested several billion in a scheme to turn lead into gold were to admit that they were the culprits and that they were quitting instantly, refusing even the tiniest brass handshake? Suppose the chairman of British Rail were to announce that his outfit was a bloody sham, and that he was fully responsible and was, therefore, *therefore* resigning at once. Suppose a judge who had 47 consecutive decisions overturned by the Court of Appeal were to declare that the reason for this phenomenon was that he was absolutely no good at all, and that the Bench would be all the better for his going, and then went.

Our bishop is clearly not a man highly skilled in financial matters, especially when hundreds of thousands of pounds are involved. As a sensible and upright cleric, he must have taken advice on the monetary aspect of the project; but nowhere in what he has said is there a word about such advisers and their advice, and much less is there any criticism of them.

It would be no bad thing if some of the people involved in the planning and execution of the disaster were now to step forward and bravely demand their own share of the blame.

"I shall hope," said the bishop, "to be of use in God's church somewhere in the future." Anybody with any sensibility will hope the same. But even if he were to vanish for ever, he has done this country permanent good. For he has put back squarely before us the concept of responsibility, and done so in the most striking manner possible — that is, by himself accepting responsibility openly and without qualification.

He would be wise, wherever he goes, and in whatever post, to steer clear of money matters, but he has no reason to feel in the least ashamed. For, in taking the financial blame, he has shown himself to be blameless.

A cosy partnership in public deception

Des Wilson on the growing disquiet over ministerial lobby briefings

Reform of the lobby system, by which political correspondents attend collective unattributable briefings by ministers, is long overdue. Three years ago members of the lobby narrowly voted to continue the system. Whatever their views might be today, reform would have political as well as public support.

Not only have both main opposition parties replaced the collective unattributable briefings with open press conferences, but a poll to be published today will show that an overwhelming majority of all backbenchers, including Conservatives, want the briefings ended.

Three serious daily newspapers (the *Guardian*, the *Independent* and the *Scotsman*) have now withdrawn from the briefings. Their political coverage has not noticeably suffered. The *Scotsman* believes it will improve. "Deprived of the ability to reveal the source of mainstream political news, we were unable to put it properly in perspective. Now we can offer

better guidance to the frequently contradictory messages to be picked up in the corridors of power."

Abuse of unattributable briefing has increased. There was the smearing of a witness in the SAS Gibraltar affair for which five newspapers had to apologize and pay substantial damages (though the *Scotsman*, of course, the protected briefers). Last November Sunday newspapers announced that pensioners' benefits might be subject to a means test. This was variously attributed to "ministers", "one senior minister", and "a senior Treasury source", but it was clear that the revelation had come from the Chancellor personally in conversation with lobby reporters.

In response to a flood of criticism, Mr Lawson denounced the report as "a farago of invention" and "inaccurate, half-baked and irresponsible". Under pressure, he admitted he had briefed lobby journalists but

claimed they had totally misrepresented what he had said. In effect, all nine reporters were mistaken, or liars. For once the lobby members felt so threatened by Lawson's abuse of the system that they let their source be known. They proposed that the Treasury publish its tape recording of the briefing. Officials said that unfortunately the tape recorder had malfunctioned. Plans for a new benefit involving £200 million were suddenly announced.

More recently, the Transport Secretary, Paul Channon, under pressure for his handling of the Lockerbie air disaster, lunched with a number of journalists under lobby conditions. Subsequently, the pressure on him was relieved by reports from "senior government sources" that the bombers had been located. The Lord Advocate was forced to say the reports "purport to be based on Whitehall sources but were inaccurate and irresponsible."

Channon denied that he had had any connection with the disclosure and condemned the leaking of security-related information. This was also too much for some reporters. The *Scottish Daily Record* said: "We weren't speculating. We were reporting information handed out by Mr Channon at a private gathering with journalists."

I am not a supporter of the conspiracy theory of politics, but it is a fact that the lobby was, at least at its inception, a conspiracy between politicians and the media. While the original level of secrecy has been abandoned, it remains a convenient "deal" between those in power and the media. Collective unattributable briefings remain a licence to deceive. Every time the Prime Minister, ministers or their representatives hold such briefings, providing information said to come from "Whitehall sources", "sources close to the minister", etc, the reader is told a

lie. Just a little lie, but a lie all the same. We are entitled to consider whether we buy newspapers in order to be deceived.

It is time the media seriously asked themselves who really benefits from the deal. Obviously ministers and their spokesmen do. The briefers are given the freedom to puff up their reputations with untrue stories, fleet rumours about their political prospects, suggest that dynamic new initiatives are imminent, rubbish the efforts of their Cabinet rivals, and misrepresent information without taking any responsibility for the outcome whatsoever.

It is said that if collective unattributable briefings ended, individual briefings would continue on the same basis, so where would the advantage be? The answer is that if an individual news story and it is wrong, he cannot resort to the defence that everyone else got it wrong too — that there has, in effect, been

official deception. He has a far greater incentive to check what he has been told to establish whether it is true.

Secondly, the rest of the "pack" will have an interest in checking the story further, possibly in the hope of discrediting it to the embarrassment of their rival. This is surely a far better deal for the reader.

One of the main concerns about the lobby's involvement in unattributable collective briefings is that it draws them into a cosy deal with the very people who should, in fact, be kept on their toes by journalists, not protected by them. The collective briefings are now an exclusive relationship between government and some newspapers, radio and television. That simply won't do, and the public are entitled to look to the media to serve them with more integrity than this.

The author, co-chairman of the Campaign for Freedom of Information, will launch his new drive for reform of the lobby at the House of Commons tonight.

The tough road to Wembley



CLEMENT FREUD

of his Priories. "Her greatest oath was by 'Saint Loy'; there were many greater oaths than that as we emerged and got carried up the station stairs, across the main

road and shambled along Olympic Way to the great stadium. The police occupied the high ground in the middle of the road; we moved up the pavements, avoiding a man holding a banner demanding "Seek Ye The Lord". Now and then fans spilt into the roadway and were hustled back by the men in blue. When a couple of them protested, four officers got hold of each and pushed them very firmly into the police van, which would have been a simpler task had they first opened the door.

After a while, the officers bundled what was left of the fans into the back of their Transit to

significant verbal abuse and drove off past the Evangelist, whose message was new "Jesus Saves"; not those fans, he did not seem to. Perhaps it will be better when they have identity cards.

Inside the stadium the organization was exemplary: fast-moving queues, courteous and knowledgeable officials to know spectators to their seats or enclosures, well-staffed bars — and if I owned Wembley, all I would add is a special section in which people could smoke at each other.

"What of the game?" do I hear you ask. Well, if one were to commission the very dullest scenario for a Cup Final, a fourth-

minute goal and an 89th-minute equaliser would be in the script. Extra time was okay, but apprehension about the home-away journey was more compulsive. I did miss the action replays — and I am sorry I was not nicer to the seat in front of me, though I was quietly pleased when he lanced his father with a flag-pole during the second half.

I found iced Coca-Cola — £1 a large cup — an excellent beverage once it had been stiffened with brandy from the hip flask my eldest daughter gave me for my birthday. The solar-panelled safari bar with built-in fan — gift of daughter number two — was wonderfully cooling, though it needed batteries; heat alone is not enough. The people in Hong Kong who made it might want to look into that.



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TIT FOR TAT

The decision by the Soviet Union to expel eight British diplomats and three journalists from Moscow will come as a cold shower to those who claim to have seen the end of the cold war. "Tit for tat" acts may appear to be a part of the past. They can more appropriately be seen as a sign of how little has changed in the land of glasnost.

Only last month President Gorbachev was in London for a visit which was apparently so successful that he invited the Queen to go to Moscow. There were renewed hopes of increasing Anglo-Soviet trade — and optimism over arms control.

It has been clear for some time, however, that the Gorbachev era has not meant a slackening in one of the USSR's strongest exports — covert political activity and intelligence gathering. No one should be surprised at that. A reforming economy needs high technology more than does a stagnant one. A reforming polity needs information on how its own image is seen in the West and how new good will can be best exploited.

The Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, in a speech to West Germany earlier this year broke the usual diplomatic silence on covert activities and accused Moscow of once more stepping up its espionage. It is thought that the KGB and its military counterpart the GRU have now built up their network to nearly two-thirds of their strength in the West before the losses suffered four years ago following the defection of the senior London KGB agent, Mr Oleg Gordievsky.

As a result of Gordievsky's information, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office ordered out 25 Soviet citizens whom he had identified as spies. The Soviets responded by throwing out 25 British officials and journalists. Each government then expelled six more before a curious kind of honour was felt to be satisfied. No recent incident has matched the events

of 1971 when as many as 105 Soviets were expelled on the orders of the then Foreign Secretary, Sir Alec Douglas-Home. But other lesser diplomatic expulsions have occurred in the intervening years.

The latest Soviet build up, despite the good and businesslike relations between Mrs Thatcher and Mr Gorbachev, has brought increasing pressure from the British security services for the Government to act. Sir Geoffrey's speech should have been seen as a veiled warning to Moscow.

The Foreign Office came under criticism yesterday for not making public the expulsions at the end of last week. It was no doubt hoped that the action could thus be contained and that, by not causing public embarrassment to Moscow, the Kremlin might be persuaded not to indulge in more "tit-for-tat".

The hope sounded faintly — and so it has turned out. Moscow's act of retaliation has not even been so far accompanied by the usual trumped-up accusations.

No parallels can be drawn between those in London and Moscow who will have to change their places of residence as a result of the past few days' events. Expulsion orders are issued in Britain only after conclusive proof of nefarious activities. A threat to national security cannot be ignored.

The action taken against the British journalists is particularly invidious. All three are distinguished correspondents representing independent organizations. To equate them with their counterparts from Moscow is cynical and unacceptable.

The Soviet action may fit ill with some people's hopes for glasnost. Sadly, as our readers will be well aware, it fits all too well with the unexplained difficulties which *The Times* continues to have in establishing our own designated correspondent in Moscow.

MARCOS AND MANILA

President Corazon Aquino was prudent to reject the emotional appeal broadcast by Mrs Marcos to permit the eventual burial of her husband, now critically ill in a Hawaii hospital, in the Philippines. The former President's hand has been visible in most of the five failed attempts to overthrow her since "people's power" forced the Marcoses into exile in February 1986.

President Aquino, halfway through her six-year presidential term, is still popular, and the armed forces should be able to contain any demonstrations and strikes mounted by his supporters in such an event. None the less, the economic and social problems Mrs Aquino inherited, beginning with \$29bn of foreign debt and two serious domestic insurgencies, are so far from being resolved that the country remains vulnerable to destabilization.

The economy is on a strong growth path. But, on the most optimistic assumptions, will take three more years for Filipinos to recover even the poor standards of living of the 1970s. And the current 6.5 per cent growth rate could be trimmed by an austerity programme, recently agreed with the IMF in return for a much-needed \$1.3bn loan, which will cut government spending and raise the prices of staples such as rice, water and electricity.

In a country more than half of whose 60 million people live in the direst poverty, reaction could be violent. Her political opponents are demanding the suspension of debt payments. Opposition leaders met yesterday to join forces under the banner of the Nationalist Party which brought President Marcos to power in the 1960s. It is not an auspicious moment for any politically disruptive event.

The main achievement of Mrs Aquino's presidency has been the restoration of elective democracy. Under a new constitution, reasonably clean elections have been held, for the Senate and House of Representatives, municipalities and, last March, for village councils. But while most of Mr Marcos's

closest cronies have been forced into retirement or exile, the same political class still runs the country.

That accounts for the Aquino Administration's greatest failure. Mrs Aquino, whose family has one of the largest estates, has acknowledged that land reform, when 10 per cent of Filipinos own 90 per cent of the cultivable acreage, is the basic test of the "new moral order" she promised the Philippines. It is also the key to neutralizing the rebel New People's Army which is estimated to control a quarter of the villages. Destitute landless peasants form the backbone of its support.

The land reform programme voted through the Philippine Congress, which remains dominated by members and allies of the great land-owning families, is far from adequate and may not be workable. Phased over 10 years, providing for compensation which would cost the Government an estimated \$8.5 billion, it puts such high ceilings on individual holdings as to leave most landlords with their land.

Cardinal Jaime Sin, the Philippines' powerful Primate, remarks that the country may have got rid of Ali Baba but has been left with the 40 thieves. The inefficient bureaucracy remains a hotbed of corruption, and the judicial system is so dilatory that it is held in ridicule. But the Church itself is part of the problem because of its inflexible opposition to contraception and abortion. The population is growing so fast that it will double within 25 years; 800,000 young people join the labour market each year.

The armed forces are somewhat less unruly and more professional than under President Marcos. But Mrs Aquino's failure to take firm action against the assassinations, both of communist guerrillas and of union militants, by the military and vigilante groups, is increasingly criticized.

This is all fertile ground for dissidence — and for nostalgia, however misplaced, for the bouts of popular largesse of the Marcos era. President Marcos's wretched legacy to the Philippines will last well beyond the grave.

From Ms Vivien Allen

Sir, Mrs Leeming has settled for being called a technophobe because of her inability to cope with all the domestic machinery in her son-in-law's house. Despite also being a mother-in-law and grandmother I love gadgets and machinery, not least the fax machine by which this letter is being sent to you and the computer on which it is being originated. Does that make me a technophile? Incidentally, I am left-handed and all my life have been called cack-handed by my Devon-born mother. Yours sincerely, VIVIEN ALLEN, 46 The Crofts, Castletown, Isle of Man. May 17.

From Mr H. Walsley

Sir, If domestic gadgets are not user-friendly, it is machine-irate users that result. I have, Sir, the honour to be your obedient servant. H. WALSLEY, Rose Farm, Frinton Road, Thorpe-Soken, Essex. May 16.

From Mr K. E. Martin

Sir, In our house it's known as cacklessness. Yours faithfully, K. E. MARTIN, Meadowbank, Bagthorpe Road, East Redham, Kings Lynn, Norfolk. May 17.

Cack-handed

From Mr Geoffrey Bowden

Sir, Mrs Leeming (May 16) is making very heavy weather of her ineptness with household machines (and, I suspect, video recorders and calculators and word processors).

The solution is simple and does not need a Philip Howard Word-Watching safari. Just send for a four-year-old grandchild to operate the machine and he/she will declare: "You are silly, Grandpa". Yours faithfully, GEOFFREY BOWDEN, Turlington Farm House, Turlington, Cirencester, Gloucestershire. May 17.

City prizes

From Mr J. A. McK. Holloway

Sir, Surely, if Mr Damant (May 15) is correct in implying that the poor relative economic performance of this country results from the inefficient use of capital, then the large number of bankers and accountants involved have not been very effective. Perhaps it is because their disciplines are of a different nature to those required for the long-term economic future

of either a business or the country.

It is a fact that a much higher proportion of German companies than here are run by engineers, who themselves have been trained in management and management. It is a very poor comment on British managers that it takes the Japanese to come over here and, using British labour, manufacture goods which indigenous companies have not found to be economic.

Successful long-term companies

recognize that success is determined by many factors, principal among which is the management of their human resources. Surely it is the failure to win the hearts and minds of the employees which has been and remains the country's biggest weakness. Yours sincerely, J. HOLLOWAY, Holloway's Orchard, Hartlip, Kent.

Estate agents' case

From Mr Tim Blenkins

Sir, Jack Straw (article, May 15) has the advantage of being a guest columnist; more than 60 column centimetres in which to make his none the less poorly argued case against estate agents. Your correspondent, in contrast, must catch your eye in a paragraph or two. So, here goes:

In York there is no commission cartel; a range of fees from 0.75 per cent to 2.25 per cent is available from the various agents. Three per

cent for multiple agency is paid to only one of the multiple agents employed. Thus, of six agents instructed, five will have worked for no reward, with no reimbursement of advertising or other costs.

Even where advertising costs are reimbursed, they are almost always carried, free of charge, by the agent for the period of sale currently averaging up to six months from start to finish. With interest rates at current levels, and commissions slow to appear, even Mr Straw can work out whether

agent or vendor benefits from this arrangement.

"Practices which are palpably against the public interest", without specifying even one. Agents would not exist if there were no demand for their service. Yours faithfully, TIM BLINKS, Jackson Stiles and Staff, 23 High Petergate, York. May 16.

Training skills for UK seamen

From the Managing Director of Curnow Shipping Limited

Sir, The Merchant Navy Reserve (MNR) has been launched after much work within Whitehall. I believe that it must have live training. How can seagoing skills be preserved, nurtured and developed, and qualifications kept valid, if the MNR members are only required to notify the Department of Transport of where they live? The Territorial Army, and the Royal Navy Reserve succeed because they are fun. Imaginative live training is at the core of any citizen force.

What is needed is a training ship which operates on a commercially-viable route, say between the UK and the Mediterranean. This could be done by a roll-on, roll-off freight and passenger-carrying ship which could run to a schedule, half-manned by MNR members at all grades, and pay for itself as the concept became established.

With Whitehall backing this active idea could be made to work by some of the remaining, and enthusiastic UK shipping companies located in Glasgow, Hull, Liverpool, London, Barry and the South-west. These companies could double, under the guidance of the transport ministry's Cardiff registration centre, as the contact points for the MNR members.

Let not the MNR drift to a leathery cynicism and thus become a Government policy that was never allowed to be more than a good idea.

Yours faithfully, ANDREW BELL, Managing Director, Curnow Shipping Limited, The Shipyard, Plymouth, Devon, Cornwall.

Safeguards for quality of water

From the Minister for Water and Planning

Sir, I have read your series of articles about the River Avon, concluding with the leading article, "Muddy waters" (May 17). I welcome your campaign, and your conclusion that privatisation is the only answer to the present unsatisfactory conditions that your articles have highlighted. But I fear that your leading article inadvertently produced some "muddied waters". Perhaps I can attempt to clarify them.

Already 90 per cent of our rivers in England and Wales are of good or fair quality. There are no European standards for rivers, but if there were, our neighbours in France and Germany would have more to do than us to achieve them.

Our river quality is not getting worse, as you suggest. Despite a check in the long-run trend of improvement during the early 1980s due largely to the investment cuts under the Labour Government of the late 1970s, recent evidence points to further increases in good and fair-quality river lengths since 1985.

I am the first to acknowledge that there is much more to be done, and under the Water Bill, Government will be required for the first time to set clear standards and timetables for further improvements in river quality. These standards will apply to discharges from sewage works, to industrial pollution, and to agricultural effluent. A new environmental watchdog, the National Rivers Authority, will be established to achieve these standards. It will have both the teeth and the cash to carry out this task.

It is not true as you suggest that the Water Bill omits to reproduce the 1973 Act requirement to main-

tain and restore river quality. This is retained and strengthened in clause 102 of our Bill reinforced by the new statutory powers to set standards. No reduction in quality will be allowed in setting these new standards.

But standards alone will not be enough. The 1973 duty has not delivered the clean rivers that we all want. Could it be because polluters do not pay? The Bill ensures that they will in future, through new charges for discharge consents.

As your campaign acknowledges, none of the improved standards we seek can be achieved without substantial spending. Clean water does not come cheap. Let us take your example of the River Avon. Further improvements are in hand at Coventry, Warwick, Redditch and Leamington. Rugby sewage treatment works is included in the £1 billion capital programme we announced last December. The number of treatment works that fail to comply is 742, very much less than the 2,000 figure you used. There is still much to do, and we intend that it should be done as quickly as possible.

Privatisation is the key to this. It will free the industry from the Government borrowing restrictions that apply to nationalised industries and unlock the door to access to private-sector funds. In this way coherent long-term investment strategies will be possible without fear of interruption or reversal by changes in political priorities, and we shall achieve the clean-up of our water environment we all want.

Yours etc, MICHAEL HOWARD, Department of the Environment, 2 Marsham Street, SW1. May 19.

Charitable ideals

From the Director of Oxfam and others

Sir, As heads of the largest overseas development charities we strongly support the proposals contained in the Government's White Paper, *Charities: A framework for the future* (report, May 17), which will help increase public confidence in charity fundraising and in the role of the Charity Commission.

Our organisations contributed to the Woodfield report, "Efficiency Scrutiny of the Supervision of Charities", in 1987 and we welcome the inclusion of the main recommendations of that report in the White Paper. The strengthening of the Charity Commission's hand in dealing with cases of fraud and financial malpractice will undoubtedly boost public confidence in all charities, though this may not be possible unless the Charity Commission is adequately funded to fulfil its expanded responsibilities.

The need to deal with malpractice through legislation should not be interpreted as meaning that malpractice is widespread. The vast majority of charities are

supported by people who care about the world in which they live and are run by competent, committed staff.

We believe the Government's proposals will help the commission to identify and deal with problem areas of fund-raising, where these do exist. We welcome the Government's emphasis on voluntary codes of practice to control large-scale fund-raising events. Our experience of such events is that, when properly organised, they can both raise much needed funds and communicate the nature of our work in the Third World to a wide audience.

Yours faithfully, FRANK JUDD (Director, Oxfam), CATHY CORCORAN (Acting Director, Catholic Fund for Overseas Development), MICHAEL TAYLOR (Director, Christian Aid), NICHOLAS HINTON (Director General, Save the Children Fund), Oxfam, 274 Banbury Road, Oxford. May 18.

Religious neologisms

From Mr W. J. Morgan

Sir, English-speaking French readers of the Counter-Reformation Association's newsletters have no need to reach for an English dictionary, as Alan Hamilton would appear to think (Diary, May 9), to discover the meaning of "sedevacantism". The term, in almost identical form, has been in common use in Catholic publications in French, as in every other major Western European language, at least since the 1970s, for those who — like the late Vietnamese archbishop, Mgr Ngô Đình Thục — consider the post-Vatican II claimants illegitimate, and hence the See of Peter vacant.

Nor can our association take the credit (or accept the blame) for the word "sedevacantism", which was coined in the later seventies

by the French Dominican theologian, Guérard des Lauriers, for his position that the See of Peter is materially occupied but formally vacant.

We must, however, confess (*mea culpa*) to having devised and given international currency to the term "habemus papam", for those Catholics who adamantly proclaim "We have a Pope", while refusing to believe his untraditional teachings, to accept his Protestantism New Mass, or to obey his orders which would make them accomplices in the Polish chairman's destruction of the Catholic Church.

Yours faithfully, W. J. MORGAN (Chairman, Counter-Reformation Association), La Guerche, Main Street, Monks Kirby, Nr Rugby, Warwickshire. May 12.

Paddington poser

From Mr Stuart Greenman

Sir, I read with interest your report (May 16) of the House of Lords' rejection on environmental grounds of the proposal for a fast rail link between Paddington and Heathrow Airport.

My concern is what happens at the Paddington end. A minimum of seven million additional passengers a year may be using Paddington station, of whom at least half might arrive by road. The environmental impact on an already overloaded road network could be disastrous.

There are solutions to ameliorate the worst effects, but British Rail and BAA (the Bill's promoters) have so far appeared unwilling to consider them. One idea in-

volves the construction of a raft over the railway tracks, which could be for exclusive taxi use.

Access to the station needs to be improved, not only because of a Heathrow link, but also for the major adjacent developments occurring on the Paddington goods yard, basin and St Mary's Hospital sites.

If the route to Heathrow is to be modified to take account of environmental protection surely the same principle should apply at the Paddington end to safeguard residents' quality of life.

Yours sincerely, STUART GREENMAN (Chairman, Paddington Residents' Active Concern on Transport), 70 Gloucester Terrace, W2. May 17.

When bees swarm

From Captain C. V. Howard, RN (ret)

Sir, Referring to Mrs Black's letter (May 13), bee-keepers do seem to appear in the most unlikely places. In summer, 1956, the aircraft carrier, HMS Eagle, was lying in the Bosphorus, off Istanbul. A swarm of bees, crossing from one side of the Bosphorus to the other, decided, in the heat of early afternoon, to rest awhile, so they deck-landed and swarmed into the engine intake of an aircraft parked on deck.

My awareness of this happening came when the ship's loudspeaker system broke my post-prandial nap (it was a weekend!) with the following pip: "D'ye hear there! All bee-keepers lay off the quarterdeck", or words to that effect.

Three did, fully equipped, including the "jaunt" [master-alarm], who successfully dealt with the invaders.

Yours faithfully, C. V. HOWARD, Durham Cottage, Lower Farm Lane, Mollington, Oxfordshire. May 13.

From Mrs Norman Crowder
Sir, There has been a bee colony in the kitchen chimney of this house for many years, living in perfect amity with successive arch-deacons of Portsmouth and their families.

The bees continued to forage throughout the recent mild winter. Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (01)782 5046.

Common-land homes

From the General Secretary of the Open Spaces Society

Sir, Barry Shaw (May 16) makes it sound easy to deregister a common. Although, due to the loopholes in the Commons Registration Act 1965, which have been exploited by lawyers, it is easier than Parliament intended, it is not so easy as Mr Shaw might think.

It is necessary to show that an event has occurred since final registration of the land to cause it to cease to be common or green. The county councils, which determine applications for deregistration, run the risk of High Court action if they get it wrong. And there are many catches which, due to the complexities of the legislation, are still being discovered.

But far too many commons and greens are being deregistered. While Mr Tony Favell's Bill (report, May 2; letters, May 5, 10, 16) will bring relief to some whose houses are wrongly registered, the far greater need is to stop wrongful deregistration of our unique and ancient commons and greens which are so much loved by the public.

This is why we urgently need the comprehensive commons legislation promised by the Government, to stop the haemorrhaging of commons and greens from the registers.

Yours faithfully, KATE ASHBROOK, General Secretary, The Open Spaces Society, 25a Bell Street, Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire. May 16.

Across the 'gap'

From Mr Brian Monaghan

Sir, As a sixth-former who has recently accepted a sponsorship from the accountancy firm referred to in your letters column, I should like to reply to some of the implicit criticism levelled.

I am indeed lured by "the very comfortable salary" (which is, incidentally, less than I would earn from stacking supermarket shelves at night) but I am also lured by a secure job providing me with a thorough vocational training. This will finance not only the seven months of my "gap" year which I have free to pursue my own projects, but will also support me throughout my university course.

As for the breadth and maturity which Mr Spencer (May 13) feels that I will be lacking, I would suggest that a combination of business experience and a seven-month period abroad will serve me adequately in that respect.

Yours, B. MONAGHAN, As from: 10 Wilton Close, Street, Somerset. May 17.

Costs burden on backyard hens

From Mrs Pauline Rook

Sir, I am a farmer's wife who keeps 21 hens. Any eggs surplus to my family's requirements have been sold in the past to Women's Institute members. My hens are kept humanely in two deep-litter houses, so that they will have plenty of space, and enjoy a varied diet.

Today I received notification from the Ministry of Agriculture of "The Testing of Poultry Flocks Order 1989". It appears that in future I and many other country housewives with a few hens will not be able to sell surplus eggs because the order requires all my birds to be tested at a cost of £25 plus VAT every eight weeks. There is no legal minimum flock size for this bureaucratic imposition. (If I kept 25,000 birds in one battery cage house I would only have to sample 60 birds at a cost of £12.50!)

Since my total egg sales to outside customers amount to about seven dozen a week, it is obvious that I and many other small producers will no longer be able to supply eggs to the public. The big battery producers may be left in control of the whole market.

This threatens to be the end of traditional backyard poultry keeping and makes no difference whatever to the problem of salmonella in eggs. Yours sincerely, PAULINE ROOK, East Leaze Farm, Haselbury Plucknett, Crewkerne, Somerset. May 14.

Smear test

From Dr Dorothy L. Crowther

Sir, At our practice partnership meeting today we decided that as our cervical smear rates are known to be high we would go all out to reach the 80 per cent cervical smear target rate suggested in the new GP contract. At my next surgery my first patient was a widow of 63 who had not had a cervical smear for 10 years. I suggested to her that a smear is recommended for everyone nowadays. Because she trusts me she accepted.

She had rheumatic fever as a child and now has rheumatoid heart disease. Some years ago she had a major stroke which left her with speech and visual defects and a left-sided paralysis. She is far more likely to die from a further stroke than cervical cancer.

I am sure I was wasting my time. Nevertheless, if we are to reach the target proposed by Mr Clarke these are the kind of women from whom we must take smears. Yours faithfully, D. L. CROWTHER, 20 Southgate Road, Potters Bar, Hertfordshire. May 17.

Green Card cost

From Mr Stephen Bickford-Smith

Sir, Wishing to take a five-day holiday in Holland, I found all flights for the relevant period fully booked, and decided, therefore, to travel in my own car.

My insurance company is charging no less than £32 for issuing a Green Card (equivalent to £2,336 per annum). This awesome impost is in addition to my normal premium, which by law covers minimum statutory motor insurance requirements in EEC countries.

Unlike in Europe, no British insurer as far as I am aware offers a policy giving comprehensive motor cover for all Europe, or even part of it.

Isn't this something that Government and those providing ground transportation links to Europe should press the insurers to change? Yours sincerely, S. BICKFORD-SMITH, 2 Paper Buildings, Temple, EC4. May 17.

Dead-head elections

From Sir Reginald Sharpe, QC

Sir, I was interested to see the letter (May 13) about dead-head elections from Mr David Lindsay. It is now just 70 years ago that I, a newly-called barrister, was one of five candidates for the two-seat constituency of Lambeth (North) on the London County Council.

Four of us (including myself) were within very few votes of each other and after more than one recount, the returning officer decided to clear up the dead heat, which had arisen between myself and one of the other candidates, by putting our two names in a hat and himself drawing out the winner. I was not the successful one.

Yours truly, REGINALD T. SHARPE, The Old Post Office, Rushlake Green, Nr Heathfield, Sussex. May 15.

Fast food

From Mrs R. G. Currey

Sir, Is this another useless record? I had lunch in my old home in Gibraltar (where I spent 2½ years); tea in my old home in Hampshire (7½ years) and dinner next door in my old home for 18 years, all on the same Monday. Yours faithfully, RONA CURREY, Pear Tree Cottage, 54 Mill Street, Castlemartin, Isle of Man. May 17.

THE ARTS 1

When good is bad

Spider man: Tim Roth as Gregor Samsa in Kafka's *Metamorphosis*

TELEVISION

It was the best of TV times, it was the worst of TV times. For their strong views on the all-enveloping power of bureaucratic systems, Dickens and Kafka have been likened but, as two televisionists last night showed, they could not be more dissimilar. The visually legible Dickens ought to be adaptation-friendly: Kafka, introspective and ungraphic, ought to be adaptation-proof. The reverse turned out to be true.

The first instalment of Granada's *A Tale of Two Cities* (ITV, final part tonight) occupied the bicentenary mini-series slot, bringing out most of the bad things in Dickens and few of the good. This may be because the novel is not one of his best. It contains too many woodenly good characters of little dramatic interest. Dickens is no good at portraying foreigners or at characterizing rhetorical positions. The stately Madame Defarge, who vents her revolutionary anger in unenlivened abstract nouns — "cold, dirt, sickness, want, hunger" — could only be played wild-eyed and electrocuted by Kathie Krieger. The French characters were played by French actors (full marks to Jean-Marc Bory as the foppish foal Evremonde), so at least the silly accents were authentic. As for France itself, Paris looked squeaky dirty. London fared little better, though the court scene in which Carton saves Darnay from the gallows bustled claustrophobically. As the root Carton, James Wilby was dashing and sardonic, and Alfred Lynch struck the right Dickensian note as Jerry Cruncher.

Arthur Hopcraft's screenplay disorientingly omits the famous opening paragraph, though its

greater sin is in the way it fragments the narrative, disrupting its momentum. Whatever Dickens's strengths are, they did not intrude on this adaptation.

Kafka's, on the other hand, did in Steven Berkoff's dramatization of *Metamorphosis* (BBC2). Economically shot on a set of tubular depth and narrowness, director Jim Goddard put the emphasis on visual distortion, which was Dickens's speciality. In his short story, Kafka, of course, takes the emphasis a step further by deforming Gregor Samsa into an insect. Tim Roth gave an extraordinarily arachnid performance, with good ensemble back-up from Saskia Reeves, Linda Marlowe, Gary Olsen and Berkoff himself. To dramatize the failure of communication at the heart of the work, mimetic acting presented the language of the body as a primitive ritual of which speech is merely another meaningless component. *A Tale of Two Cities* could have taken a leaf out of *Metamorphosis*'s book.

For the first time in many years, *Grandstand* (BBC1) was the sole screener of the FA Cup final, and on the whole it coped admirably with the task of keeping football in perspective. Ont went the twittering razzmatazz that most years keeps the viewer happy from breakfast to kick-off. The imitatively insane John Motson confined his Motsonisms to form rather than content. The game itself provided entertainment to outstrip anything the BBC or Granada drama departments could cook up. Everton's 89th-minute goal was a master stroke, though a third McCall equalizer would have stretched credibility. Any thoughts, Trevor?

Jasper Rees

TOMORROW: John Russell Taylor on *Art in Latin America* at the Hayward

Winning team

OPERA

Jenůfa
Glyndebourne

This is the sort of evening that makes running an opera house look terribly easy. You find a winning combination for *Katya Kabanova*; then the next year you just repeat the same team for *Jenůfa*. And it works. Andrew Davis, Glyndebourne's new musical director, proves again that this is a surprisingly effective Janáček theatre, one in which fierce climaxes can register without harshness, and in which the intricate meshings of the musical cogwheels can be heard. This is also a performance in which the expressive force comes bounding across as a result of the mechanical motion set up within the score, needing no other motivation: the heart, after all, is another machine.

The advantages of a small house are very evident too in Nikolaus Lehnhoff's production. All the singers seem to know to the nearest degree and centimetre where they should be, bow they should stand, and what they are doing there: the action begins with a close grip and never lets go; indeed its sense of purpose becomes ever stronger, right up to the unexpected but startlingly apt sudden rampage of the men near the end, overturning furniture and emptying chests of linen.

Lehnhoff also knows how to maximize the intimacy of the house, and in this he is helped once again by his designer Tobias

Hobeisel, especially in the last two acts, which take place within a plainly furnished, steeply raked room, painted in a uniform ice blue against which the figures burn with intensity. The first act also has a Nolde-like vibrancy and expressivity of colour, with the side of a great vermillion barn at the left, a stylized green hill at the rear, and yellow evening light (for which Wolfgang Göbbel is responsible) slanting in from the right. Whether inside or outside, we are, like Janáček's characters, within closed spaces, and the colour schemes respond not only to the expressionist heat of the score but also to its musical means, its use of extreme gestures in slabs of repetition.

What further helps, of course, is that we have three extraordinary singing actors in the central roles. Anja Silja reminds us that the Kostelnicka is the secret protagonist, and that she is no embittered harpist but a woman whose love for Jenůfa is so intense as to make her capable of infanticide: the scene in which she resolves on the

doed is a remarkable exercise in melodrama made acutely real.

Silja can get away with the staggered looks, the slow slumps, the sudden second thoughts, the clasped hands and all the other gestures of ham acting — and not only get away with them but make them searingly necessary, as necessary as the cold flame to her voice that speaks of the Kostelnicka's devotion to her stepdaughter.

There must have been some worry that the size of Silja's personality, much more than her physical height, would be excessive in these surroundings, but not at all: she commands attention and respect in every moment, and it is a privilege to be able to observe such a magnificent stage animal at close quarters.

Roberta Alexander acts the passive victim tense with frustration and emotional vulnerability: in 20 years she will be another Kostelnicka, and her voice, with its free projection and quick-vibrato brilliance, fits with Silja's as one hand into another. Philip Langridge's Laca, with the hair and stance of Max Wall, is a compelling achievement of erratic weakness right up to this singer's high standards, and Mark Baker makes a strong, simple Steva. Nothing is missing, nothing.

Paul Griffiths

Perfect fit: Roberta Alexander plays the passive victim in *Jenůfa*

Clear voice in the confusion

Orfeo ed Euridice
Glyndebourne

Gluck's Orpheus opera has a way of throwing its performers and audiences into confusion. Will the Italian or the later French version be used? Will Orpheus be male or female, alto or tenor? And just how much dancing will the Furies and the Happy Shades be allowed?

Having made the decision to stick with the original Italian version, Glyndebourne seems less than sure about anything else. The programme book implies that this is a revival of the production first seen in 1982: the Press notes declare that this is Glyndebourne's third production of *Orfeo* following those of 1947 and 1982. A harpsichord continuo was expected (there are reasonable arguments both for and against its use here); but, at the last minute, the conductor decided he did not want one after all. Orfeo is an alto, but

female, following Glyndebourne's own tradition created by Kathleen Ferrier and Janet Baker.

The central tilting "jetty" of the old production remains; but the sets, "substantially re-worked", have moved out into the open air with speedy transitions between what looks like a Highland glen, a medieval portcullis and an 18th-century tea garden. John Bury's new costumes, heavily accurate, slot the action firmly into Gluck's own time; courtly daoces replace much of the eloquent mime.

The object, I suspect, is to edge towards authenticity and make of this a court opera, *tombeaux, tableaux* and all. The English Bach Festival has shown how this can

be done with exquisite lightness and grace, born of a meticulous study of contemporary movement and gesture. But Michael McCaffery, making his Glyndebourne directing debut, has created an *Orfeo* in the 18th century, but by no means of it: the costumes themselves mask an uneasy compromise between imitation and style, period posturing and *waismance* which ends up as an absence of any style at all.

Distractions like the awkward groaning asylum inmates of Hades, the frock-coated, skull-faced figure of Death (who belongs very much to the tackier aspects of *Amadeus*), and the tea-sipping avenue of Blessed Spirits compete with leaden orchestral direction to sap much of the work's emotion and dramatic life.

It is in spite of, rather than

thanks to, the cooing of Hermann Michael (also making his house debut) that Diana Mootague is such a consistently affecting Orfeo. There may be too substitute for the particular pungency and plangency of a male alto to this version, but Mootague's range and directness of expression throughout her register, and the eloquence of her phrasing, create a powerful and all-to-vital central focus for the production.

Cynthia Haymo's Euridice, as yet more impassioned in recitative than in aria, sings sweetly, gives much and, with tighter production, could give more. Deborah Rees as a deft and stylish Amor does everything within her power to make it all come right in the end.

Hilary Finch



Diana Mootague as Orfeo

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THE TIMES

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DIRECT FROM
SWITZERLAND

THE ARTS 2

Night of aerobics goes over the top

ROCK

Bananarama
Hammersmith
Odeon

First, let's dispose of the preposterous suggestion that Bananarama are the most successful girl group ever. As an unchanged line-up (which has now changed) they had more British hit singles than any other unchanged all-girl group. But the Supremes have sold seven or eight times as many records and enjoyed 12 American number ones, placing them in a different league.

Much of the performance was like a bizarre aerobics class. Wearing skin-tight micro-skirts which later gave way to a matching set of artfully ripped jeans, the girls managed the not inconsiderable feat during "Love Truth & Honesty" of simultaneously jumping up and down, flapping their arms, maintaining fixed grins and singing.

Fervent excitement prevailed among the young, largely female audience, but the attraction of the show swiftly palled. The incessantly similar disco rhythms of the songs were not so hard to take as the unbearably dreary union singing.

The crunch came when, buoyed up by the response to "Venus", they tackled on a pitiful version of Bon Jovi's "You Give Love a Bad Name", a song that was way beyond their dynamic and vocal range. Their strength as a decorative modern chorus-line lies mostly in their ability to recognize their limitations. They venture beyond them at their peril.

David Sinclair

An idyll spiked

CANNES
FILM
FESTIVAL

Cannes is unlikely to see a more extraordinary film this year than *The Right Thing*, produced, written and directed by the young black American film-maker Spike Lee — the opening title styles it "a Spike Lee joint". Lee's previous features have been the caustic and sexy *She's Gotta Have It* and a campus-satire, *School Daze*.

Do the Right Thing is an ambitious allegory on racism. It starts seductively, rather like an old-fashioned small-town comedy, as Lee presents the colourful characters of the Brooklyn district of Bedford Stuyvesant. There is the local soap, a chorus of elderly men sunning themselves on the stoop, the loafers, the lovers, the village fool and the neighbourhood Rambo with a 20-battery ghetto-blast.

Lee then proceeds to show the destruction of this idyll — in which the Italian pizzeria and the Korean grocery have co-existed peacefully — when prejudice and anger take hold. What is quite new in the film is its clear statement that bigotry and stupidity can exist as dangerously in the black community as in the white. A puzzling ambiguity is emphasized by the two closing title quotations, from Martin Luther King deploring violence and from Malcolm X saying that there are occasions when violence can be intelligence.

The veteran Japanese director Shohei Imamura also

undertakes a big subject in *Black Rain*, about the aftermath of Hiroshima. His intention is clearly to personalize and individualize the horror through the experience of a small group of radiation victims. In the event it becomes rather a monotonous and unaffectionate medical record, albeit impressively filmed in lush black and white.

Percy Adloo also deals with big issues through little people in his comedy *Rosalee Goes Shopping*. The star of his *Baghdad Café*, the stalwart Marianne Sägebrecht plays a devoted Arkansas wife and mother, enmeshed in debt by credit cards. Discovering the thrills of computer hacking, Rosalee successfully breaks into big-time fraud. Uneven and less satisfying than *Baghdad Café*, *Rosalee* still has a few wise and witty comments on the pleasures and perils of a consumer society.

David Robinson

I wish I could remember which party I was thrown out of

Monteverdi's Vespers returned to Venice for a moving performance. Stephen Pettitt was there to enjoy it

Home again



John Eliot Gardiner rehearses with the Monteverdi Choir in San Marco

Four hundred and twenty-two years to the week after the birth of Claudio Monteverdi, I am sitting in the Basilica of San Marco in Venice, and before me are the forces of the Monteverdi Choir and the English Baroque Soloists. John Eliot Gardiner, their conductor, casts a glance to the upper tier of the double pulpit, where stands the tenor Nigel Robson. The whole audience seems to take a breath. Then begins one of the most moving evenings of my life — as the simple but commanding invocation "Deus in adiutorium meum intende" and the forceful fanfare-decorated response on a single D major chord, "Domine in adiutorium me festina", ring through the church and doubtless up to heaven. Monteverdi's 1610 Vespers setting has returned to its spiritual home.

For Gardiner, this performance was a personal landmark. He had first performed the work in the ideal acoustic of this setting in 1986. This, though, was to be the real thing, and as if to reinforce that flavour he required his singers to perform from memory.

It was back in 1964 that an audacious Cambridge undergraduate, treasuring memories of what must have been a grotesquely unattractive performance with the London Symphony Orchestra under Walter Goehr in York Minster in 1958, had his first stab at conducting this great work. He went on to make a famous Decca recording in the Seventies, dramatic and Italianate but done in studio conditions and still with modern-style instruments.

Now, taking advantage of improved period-style playing tech-

niques, he decided to make a live recording. Deutsche Grammophon agreed to make a CD-video of the event, so combining the musical and visual splendours which Gardiner believes go hand in hand in this work (which was in fact written in Mantua, but may just have been part of Monteverdi's successful bid for the job of San Marco's *maestro di cappella*).

The BBC provided a film crew and a television slot around Christmas. (Dennis Marks, the BBC producer, decided to use conventional film rather than video because of the greater textural variety the older medium offered.)

If the logistics of the collaboration were formidable — and complicated by the fact that the BBC strike prohibited filming or even rehearsing on the day of the first performance — the practical problems of getting the project to Venice were daunting. There was all the equipment to ferry across from the mainland (the two portable organs re-enacted a scenario of 400 years ago by making their journey on a barge). There was the matter of persuading the authorities to allow the performances in San Marco when official church policy in Italy is to prohibit any such event where a commercial interest exists.

Then there was the problem of noise from the square outside. A rumour flew around that a certain bribe was necessary to quieten the players who traditionally serenade customers at Florian's, and personnel were recruited from the Venice opera to patrol the area. Even they could not prevent a dog obstinately barking throughout the first performance. Enter Mich-

ael MacLeod, the Monteverdi Choir's administrator and master of coordination. A visit to the offending household, a diplomatic explanation, and all was well the following evening.

As much because of strikes as dogs, this second performance became a do-or-die occasion. Gardiner's enthusiasm was still unbounded. He spoke of his firm belief that the Vespers collection really is self-contained, intended to be performed straight through without modifying the order or inserting chants.

He also laid great stress upon the piece's extraordinary theatricality, and the performances certainly showed that side of the music. In the "Ave maris stella", for instance, choirs and soloists were spectacularly scattered about the famous galleries in the chancel area; and the climax of the great Magnificat had the tenor Mark Tucker responding gloriously to Robson's dramatic declamation of "Gloria patri" from the west gallery while the excellent girls of Loodoo Oratory Junior Choir sang out the cantus firmus from the other end of the church.

The final rehearsal saw tension build: with half an hour to go Gardiner was sitting on the floor in a side chapel with his choir, quietening nerves with a team talk. Then the performance, miraculously more relaxed than the previous night's, and hence both more precise and more spiritual. There were some lovely contributions from the sopranos Ann Monoyios and Mariella Pennicchini, the counter-tenor Michael Chance, the tenor Sandro Naglia and the basses Alastair Miles and Bryn Terfel, and the continuo team were, it seemed, alive to every nuance.

Old bones in the Pacific

RADIO

When Roland reached the object of his quest to Louis Macneice's *The Dark Tower*, there was a touch of triumph to it. That was back in 1946 with the war just won and worlds still to win. Forty-three years later, the world remains unwon. What sort of climax then can we expect of Don Juan Hurtado de la Vega's daunting journey to the spice islands as chronicled in Carey Harrison's new three-part play *The Sea Voyage* (Radio 3, Tuesdays; director Jane Morgan)? Is this heading for triumph? Or will it end tomorrow night. More in the spirit of 1989 by which great enterprises are expected to come unstuck?

Hurtado's five-ship armada of the late 1520s is ostensibly in search of pepper, but that will surely prove abortive since the Moluccas, without reference to their inhabitants, have been ceded by Spain for Portugal. A piece of oes broken to Juan only in mid-voyage. In fact, he already knew and is entirely unaffected. Political manoeuvring, let alone pepper, is the least of his concerns. For Juan Hurtado has been reading in

some heretical work of eastern mysticism that in the islands are to be found the bones of Christ, and these are his sole preoccupation.

These first two parts have been richly written, beguiling to hear, marvellously evocative of storm and peril and of a time when journeying hopefully was often the only option. Will part three also bring home the bones?

But more than 400 years later it was still possible to make journeys across the Atlantic in their own way just as uncertain and demanding of the voyager's amazing reserves of confidence. In the early part of the Second World War, numbers of West Indians courageously left the Caribbean under no external compulsion whatever in order to help what they had been brought up to think of as "the mother country". Last summer in *O Mother Country* Alex Pascall gave us the memories of some of them. Skilled Jamaicans who came to Liverpool for jobs in industry. Fran Acheson's *The Invisible Force* (Radio Four, Tuesdays) was a collection of the experiences of men from all over the Caribbean who volunteered — and paid their own fares for the privilege — to join the British forces. The two groups had a lot in

common. Both recorded the chilly welcome afforded by the Anglican Church. And for both it was an eye-opener. One crew arrival, starting at the bleak docksides from the ship, was astounded by a sight never seen across the water. A white man pushing a barrow. Another, also looking homeward, couldn't help but notice that here he was fighting for Poland's freedom, and what price freedom back home? Reports from my contacts on another field of battle (British education 1989) confirm me in the belief that King Street Junior (Radio Four, Tuesdays; repeated Thursdays; producer John Fawcett Wilson) is not only a very entertaining, but a rather accurate account of the present state of hostilities. Jim Eldridge's latest series, without compromising its light touch, has been tackling some of the heavier implications of present policies.

The great thing about this programme is its even handedness: a wicked DoE is balanced by some amazingly provoking members of staff who never seem to realize that they are only able to maintain their rigid principles because their more flexible colleagues choose not to.

David Wade

Haunting symphony

CONCERT

Orch de Lille/
Grievess-Smith
Brighton

"Discover yourself — it will take years" was César Franck's ominous advice to his star pupil, the Parisian organist-composer Charles Tournemire. Perhaps the motto of this year's Brighton Festival should have been "Discover Tournemire's music — it will just seem to take years".

Even the French appear to have adopted the pragmatic attitude that if you ignore the 50th anniversary of Tournemire's death long enough, it will go away. But to brighten the flame of historical inquiry, burns fiercely, which is why the Orchestre National de Lille was seated in the Byzantine splendour of St Bartholomew's Church giving the first British performance of Tournemire's Second Symphony under the direction of the young English conductor Jonathan Grievess-Smith.

They stuck to their grim task admirably. Tournemire took his creaky cyclic form, his slithering modulations and his treacle-like concept of orchestration from César

Franck. But Franck wrote memorable tunes, whereas Tournemire seems to have had a pathological hatred of melody. The slow movement opened with scorching quasi-plainsong material; some off-stage horn calls would have been interesting if they had

not been so ineptly written; and the finale's recurring brass fanfare had a kind of ringing ecclesiastical pomp — but half a dozen effective moments in 45 minutes is hardly good news.

Richard Morrison

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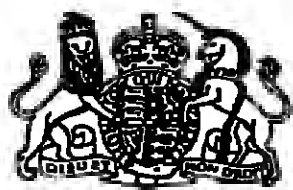
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COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
May 20: The Prince Edward this evening attended the Mental Health Foundation 40th anniversary Spring Ball at the National Motor Museum, Beaulieu, Hampshire.

KENSINGTON PALACE
May 21: The Prince of Wales, Patron, Music in Country Churches, attended a concert in Salford Church, Norfolk.

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KENSINGTON PALACE
May 20: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, was present this evening at a Concert held in Salisbury Cathedral in aid of the Salisbury Cathedral Spire Appeal.

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Church on a tight-rope

Mark Honeyball

In his eulogistic sermon in 1980, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, stated: "The cry is the Church must give a firm lead. Yes, it must — a firm lead against rigid thinking, a judging temper of mind, the disposition to oversimplify the difficult, and complex problems. If the church gives Jesus Christ's sort of lead, it will not be popular. It may even be despised for failing to grasp the power which is offered to it."

An admirable sentiment, or so it would seem. The cry to "give a firm lead" on any number of issues is one any priest will recognize, whether or not he is expected to possess knowledge or expertise concerning the matter in hand. The faithful are generally too busy, we are told, going about their daily business, with family responsibilities, to give much thought to questions of theology, morality, ethics and the rest. It is the church's (by which is meant the clergy's) business to do the thinking; and then to do the teaching.

This is a way of life for the church, and a way of doing theology, that the Archbishop and others have consistently warned us about. Theology is now everybody's business, as is ecclesiastical management, and everyone is entitled to their own opinions. So it has become an axiom of the Church of England that "rigid thinking" is an expression of abuse, and "refusal to compromise" a sign of a hardening of heart and smallness of mind.

But what if the laity also "fail to grasp the power which is offered in it"? Are they to be despised because they ask sometimes for answers to some questions, as well as the freedom to ask them?

This is a question that has in the past been asked because, as yet, there has been no answer forthcoming. What could be more rigid, more unbending, than the unwavering adherence in a doctrine which states that everything is under discussion and up for

grabs, nothing is to be the fixed point from which other things may develop and grow?

Child psychologists have long recognized that a vital point of growing-up is the stage of "exploration from a secure base". The young child learns to explore more, to test the limits and excitement of his freedom, if the parental figures are pivotal and stable. He or she will constantly push back the boundaries in which he feels safe if he has a place to which he can return, and which he can be sure will be there, even if he changes the focus of his attention to the object of his exploration. The insecure child will need constant touching, hugging and reassurance, and exhibits alarming signs of disinterest or fear of the territory surrounding him.

These are patterns we surely take with us in varying ways into adult life. Not only in the dramatic forms of adventure and exploration (though any mountaineer or arctic explorer will vouch for the importance of base camp, or back-up supplies) but in everyday life: the home, the family, familiar routine and predictables. These are the bases from which we have the courage to develop and expand.

Too much of modern reticence in theological and ecclesiastical matters stems from a confusion between what constitutes "exploration" and "secure base". It is a confusion which is beginning to destroy its original and praise-worthy object: the pushing-back of the boundaries of investigation, thinking and believing, in a questioning world.

The opposite type of believer in the one intended results: the one who is afraid to explore at all, who neurotically clings to the object which he sees as his protection, but from which he should be beginning to learn a certain degree of independence. We are, through a righteous fear of "rigid thinking", failing to allow our own laity the freedom and

space in which, theologically, they can feel allowed to mature.

Theology, of course, is a challenge, and the life of faith is not meant to be comfortable. But it does at least have to be attractive: to be seen as an endeavour which is life-giving and life-enhancing for the one who embarks upon it. A church increasingly perceived as being frightened of certainties, and in fear of its own credal lynch-pins, is a body which will have less and less to say to a world wanting to find answers as well as ask questions. There is little point in asking such questions if we believe from the outset that there are no answers to be found.

The university environment in which I live and work is based on the first principle of intellectual endeavour: the honest asking of real questions. But no student at any level does so in the expectation that he will end up with as few certainties as when he began, or that his ignorance will be as great. The aim of exploration is to find; the purpose of the humble and open-minded asking, is to take possession of at least some answers.

There are pitfalls. The temptations of postmodernism are strong: the attractions of setting in stone cherished beliefs which are, nevertheless, still a matter of discussion and debate, are also very enticing. But it is a tight-rope life the church is called to walk, and a lack of courage to do so is the very worst excuse we can give if we refuse the invitation.

A superstitious world lives in fear of the unknown. The church must be careful that in being "not of this world" we should instead live in fear of the known. In certain contexts, in theology as in the rest of life, stability, security, firmness of belief — and rigidity in our adherence to them — is not a form of arrogance, but the way in which people are set free.

The Rev Mark Honeyball is Chaplain of Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge.

Marriages

Mr M.H. Evans
and **Miss P.M. Rosling**
The marriage took place on Saturday, at St Stephen's Church, Canterbury, of Mr Michael Evans, son of Captain and the Hon Mrs Robert Evans, of Cowden, Kent, to Miss Penelope Rosling, daughter of Mr and Mrs David Rosling, of Hammerwood, The Rev Alan Caldwell and the Rev Alan McCabe officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Lucy Meade, William Evans, Mrs Frances Hutchinson and Miss Kim Rosling, sister of the bride. The Rev Alan Caldwell officiated.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr J. Beaton-Hind
and **Miss S. Starkey**
The marriage took place on Saturday in Southwell Minister of Mr Jonathan Beaton-Hind, younger son of Dr and Mrs John Beaton-Hind, of Oldwell, Ashdon-under-Hill, near Evesham, Worcestershire, to Miss Suzanne Starkey, eldest daughter of Sir John and Lady Starkey, of Norwood Park, Southwell, Nottinghamshire. The Provost of Derby officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Elizabeth Starkey, Kate Starkey, Isabella Starkey, Lucy Wood, Frederick Beaton-Hind, Edward Colhurst and Miss Justine Hardy. Captain Anthony Clay was best man. A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr M.J.L. Kirk
and **Miss A.T. Macey**
The marriage took place on Saturday, at the Cathedral Church of Christ, Canterbury, of Mr Matthew Kirk, youngest son of the late Sir Peter Kirk and of Lady Kirk, of Newton-upon-Avon, North Yorkshire, to Miss Anna Macey, daughter of Rear-Admiral David Macey and the late Mrs Lorna Macey, and stepdaughter of Mrs David Macey, of Gillingham, Canterbury, Kent. The Dean of Canterbury officiated, assisted by the Rev Peter Marchant, who gave an address. The Bishop of Chichester pronounced the blessing.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Alys Langdale, Abbie Man, Imogen Man and Nina Hamilton. Mr Philip Best was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr R. Agnew
and **Miss C.E. Tinsley**
The marriage took place on Friday, April 21, at Holy Trinity Church, Brompton, of Mr Robert Agnew, son of Mr Bolton Agnew to Miss Clare Tinsley.

The marriage took place quietly in Newbury on Friday, May 19, 1989, of Mr David Stewart and Mrs Susan Phillips (née Coxwell-Sugars).

Mr J.L. Ware
and **Miss A.L. Nicholls**
The marriage took place quietly in Newbury on Friday, May 19, 1989, of Mr David Stewart and Mrs Susan Phillips (née Coxwell-Sugars).

Mrs A. Balfour
The requiem Mass and funeral service for the late Mrs Archie Balfour will be held at 12 noon today at St Mary's, Cadogan Street.

Gloucestershire
Canon Ringrose officiated. The bride, who was given in marriage by her brother, Mr Jonathan Hunt, was attended by Joanna Hunt and Emma Newman. Mr Peter Holden was best man.

A reception was held at Chavenage House, Tetbury, and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr P. Lawrence
and **Miss S.E. Bartlett**
The marriage took place on Saturday at the Parish Church, Frinton-on-Sea, of Mr Peter Lawrence, youngest son of Mr E.F. Lawrence, of Petworth, West Sussex, and the late Mrs J. Lawrence, and Miss Sally Bartlett, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs R.G. Bartlett, of Frinton-on-Sea. The Rev Robin Elphick officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Hannah, Amy and Myra. The bridegroom, Mr Alec Pelmore was best man.

A reception was held at the Lawn Tennis Club, Frinton-on-Sea, and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Major E.D. Stewart
and **Mrs S.M. Phillips**
The marriage took place quietly in Newbury on Friday, May 19, 1989, of Mr David Stewart and Mrs Susan Phillips (née Coxwell-Sugars).

Mr J.L. Ware
and **Miss A.L. Nicholls**
The marriage took place quietly in Newbury on Friday, May 19, 1989, of Mr David Stewart and Mrs Susan Phillips (née Coxwell-Sugars).

Mrs A. Balfour
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Appointments in the Forces

Royal Navy
ADMIRAL Sir William Stretton - to be promoted Admiral of the Fleet, June 27.
REAR ADMIRAL R.C.F. Hill - to be promoted Vice-Admiral, June 27.
ADMIRAL Sir William Stretton - to be promoted Admiral of the Fleet, June 27.
REAR ADMIRAL R.C.F. Hill - to be promoted Vice-Admiral, June 27.

Royal Air Force
ADMIRAL Sir William Stretton - to be promoted Admiral of the Fleet, June 27.
REAR ADMIRAL R.C.F. Hill - to be promoted Vice-Admiral, June 27.
ADMIRAL Sir William Stretton - to be promoted Admiral of the Fleet, June 27.
REAR ADMIRAL R.C.F. Hill - to be promoted Vice-Admiral, June 27.

Royal Army
ADMIRAL Sir William Stretton - to be promoted Admiral of the Fleet, June 27.
REAR ADMIRAL R.C.F. Hill - to be promoted Vice-Admiral, June 27.
ADMIRAL Sir William Stretton - to be promoted Admiral of the Fleet, June 27.
REAR ADMIRAL R.C.F. Hill - to be promoted Vice-Admiral, June 27.

Royal Marines
ADMIRAL Sir William Stretton - to be promoted Admiral of the Fleet, June 27.
REAR ADMIRAL R.C.F. Hill - to be promoted Vice-Admiral, June 27.
ADMIRAL Sir William Stretton - to be promoted Admiral of the Fleet, June 27.
REAR ADMIRAL R.C.F. Hill - to be promoted Vice-Admiral, June 27.

Royal Engineers
ADMIRAL Sir William Stretton - to be promoted Admiral of the Fleet, June 27.
REAR ADMIRAL R.C.F. Hill - to be promoted Vice-Admiral, June 27.
ADMIRAL Sir William Stretton - to be promoted Admiral of the Fleet, June 27.
REAR ADMIRAL R.C.F. Hill - to be promoted Vice-Admiral, June 27.

Royal Signals
ADMIRAL Sir William Stretton - to be promoted Admiral of the Fleet, June 27.
REAR ADMIRAL R.C.F. Hill - to be promoted Vice-Admiral, June 27.
ADMIRAL Sir William Stretton - to be promoted Admiral of the Fleet, June 27.
REAR ADMIRAL R.C.F. Hill - to be promoted Vice-Admiral, June 27.

Royal Artillery
ADMIRAL Sir William Stretton - to be promoted Admiral of the Fleet, June 27.
REAR ADMIRAL R.C.F. Hill - to be promoted Vice-Admiral, June 27.
ADMIRAL Sir William Stretton - to be promoted Admiral of the Fleet, June 27.
REAR ADMIRAL R.C.F. Hill - to be promoted Vice-Admiral, June 27.

Royal Tank Corps
ADMIRAL Sir William Stretton - to be promoted Admiral of the Fleet, June 27.
REAR ADMIRAL R.C.F. Hill - to be promoted Vice-Admiral, June 27.
ADMIRAL Sir William Stretton - to be promoted Admiral of the Fleet, June 27.
REAR ADMIRAL R.C.F. Hill - to be promoted Vice-Admiral, June 27.

Royal Cavalry
ADMIRAL Sir William Stretton - to be promoted Admiral of the Fleet, June 27.
REAR ADMIRAL R.C.F. Hill - to be promoted Vice-Admiral, June 27.
ADMIRAL Sir William Stretton - to be promoted Admiral of the Fleet, June 27.
REAR ADMIRAL R.C.F. Hill - to be promoted Vice-Admiral, June 27.

Royal Horse Artillery
ADMIRAL Sir William Stretton - to be promoted Admiral of the Fleet, June 27.
REAR ADMIRAL R.C.F. Hill - to be promoted Vice-Admiral, June 27.
ADMIRAL Sir William Stretton - to be promoted Admiral of the Fleet, June 27.
REAR ADMIRAL R.C.F. Hill - to be promoted Vice-Admiral, June 27.

Royal Field Artillery
ADMIRAL Sir William Stretton - to be promoted Admiral of the Fleet, June 27.
REAR ADMIRAL R.C.F. Hill - to be promoted Vice-Admiral, June 27.
ADMIRAL Sir William Stretton - to be promoted Admiral of the Fleet, June 27.
REAR ADMIRAL R.C.F. Hill - to be promoted Vice-Admiral, June 27.

Royal Mountain Artillery
ADMIRAL Sir William Stretton - to be promoted Admiral of the Fleet, June 27.
REAR ADMIRAL R.C.F. Hill - to be promoted Vice-Admiral, June 27.
ADMIRAL Sir William Stretton - to be promoted Admiral of the Fleet, June 27.
REAR ADMIRAL R.C.F. Hill - to be promoted Vice-Admiral, June 27.

Royal Garrison Artillery
ADMIRAL Sir William Stretton - to be promoted Admiral of the Fleet, June 27.
REAR ADMIRAL R.C.F. Hill - to be promoted Vice-Admiral, June 27.
ADMIRAL Sir William Stretton - to be promoted Admiral of the Fleet, June 27.
REAR ADMIRAL R.C.F. Hill - to be promoted Vice-Admiral, June 27.

Royal Heavy Artillery
ADMIRAL Sir William Stretton - to be promoted Admiral of the Fleet, June 27.
REAR ADMIRAL R.C.F. Hill - to be promoted Vice-Admiral, June 27.
ADMIRAL Sir William Stretton - to be promoted Admiral of the Fleet, June 27.
REAR ADMIRAL R.C.F. Hill - to be promoted Vice-Admiral, June 27.

Royal Light Artillery
ADMIRAL Sir William Stretton - to be promoted Admiral of the Fleet, June 27.
REAR ADMIRAL R.C.F. Hill - to be promoted Vice-Admiral, June 27.
ADMIRAL Sir William Stretton - to be promoted Admiral of the Fleet, June 27.
REAR ADMIRAL R.C.F. Hill - to be promoted Vice-Admiral, June 27.

Royal Medium Artillery
ADMIRAL Sir William Stretton - to be promoted Admiral of the Fleet, June 27.
REAR ADMIRAL R.C.F. Hill - to be promoted Vice-Admiral, June 27.
ADMIRAL Sir William Stretton - to be promoted Admiral of the Fleet, June 27.
REAR ADMIRAL R.C.F. Hill - to be promoted Vice-Admiral, June 27.

Royal Heavy Artillery
ADMIRAL Sir William Stretton - to be promoted Admiral of the Fleet, June 27.
REAR ADMIRAL R.C.F. Hill - to be promoted Vice-Admiral, June 27.
ADMIRAL Sir William Stretton - to be promoted Admiral of the Fleet, June 27.
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OBITUARIES

SIR JOHN HICKS

Economic theorist with original ideas

Sir John Hicks, who died on May 20 at the age of 85, was one of Britain's most internationally eminent economists. He was awarded the Nobel Memorial Prize for economics in 1972, the first British economist to receive such an award.

John Richard Hicks was born in 1904 and educated at Clifton College, Oxford, as a mathematician, scholar, and read Modern Greek, with his interests concentrated on economics and particularly on the more mathematical aspects of the subject.

His first appointment was at the London School of Economics where he soon established himself as one of the most promising economic theorists of his generation.

Some of Hicks' best contributions to economic theory were made during this time at the LSE.

His first major work was a study of the pure theory of wages under competitive conditions, leading to the publication of *The Theory of Wages* (Macmillan, 1932). He then turned his attention to the theory of value, developing his ideas in seminars and publishing them in an article on "A Reconsideration of the Theory of Value" (with R.G.D. Allen) in *Economics* in 1934. This article marked a great change in economic thought and it has fallen into its proper place in the history of economic theory. In fact, as Hicks discovered later, many of the results had been advanced much earlier, by Slutsky in 1915, and then forgotten. Hicks later extended his theory of value in his *Value and Capital* (Oxford, 1939, second edition, 1946).

At Cambridge, where he was Fellow of Gonville and Caius College from 1935 to 1938, Hicks lectured on economic principles in the classical tradition, and he continued in this direction when he became Professor of

Political Economy at the University of Manchester in 1938.

The Second World War, by removing most of the students in which he was so interested, served to change the course of his career and to divert his attention from theory to wider problems of economic policy.

He had married, in 1935, Ursula K. Webb, an economist in her own right and soon to become an authority on public finance. Hicks' pre-occupation during the war, in collaboration with his wife and others, was with the expenditures and rationing procedures of local authorities and with other topics in public finance.

He published a small book on *The Problem of Budgetary Reform* (Oxford, 1948) and later served with great distinction, from 1951 onwards, as a member of the Royal Commission on the Taxation of Profits and Income.

After the war, he was an Official Fellow of Nuffield College, Oxford, from 1946 until elected Drummond Professor of Political Economy and Fellow of All Souls in 1952.

While continuing to write on questions of economic policy, some of his papers being collected in *Essays in World Economics* (Oxford, 1959), he found time to return to his earlier work on theory. He published some important work on cycle theory in *A Contribution to the Theory of the Trade Cycle* (Oxford, 1950), and he developed his ideas on value theory in *A Revision of Demand Theory* (Oxford, 1956).

Inevitably developments in economic theory, with emphasis on economic growth, in the 1960s led him to apply his critically mathematical mind to the problems under discussion. One of the main results, *Capital and Growth* (Oxford, 1965) owed much to his association with Professor Morishima, first in Japan in 1960 and then in England from 1963 onwards. Another

result was his expository contribution to "Linear Theory" to the third volume of the *Survey of Economic Theory* (Macmillan, 1966).

The range of his ideas is nowhere shown in his advantage than in his stimulating book on *A Theory of Economic History* (Oxford, 1969). His *Crisis in Keynesian Economics* (1974) provided new insights on monetary policy and inflation.

His advice was increasingly sought and Hicks travelled extensively, often with his wife, in the 1950s and 1960s, particularly after his retirement from the Drummond chair in 1965. Separately and together, they wrote and advised on policy matters, with special reference to finance and taxation in Commonwealth countries. Some of the growing number of his related theoretical papers collected together in *Critical Essays in Monetary Theory* (Oxford, 1967).

Hicks was elected a Fellow of the British Academy in 1942 and an Honorary Fellow of the London School of Economics in 1969. He was knighted in 1964.

Hicks was a brilliant expositor, as well as an original thinker, a master equally of the spoken and written word. In his lectures on theory, and on advanced topics, and particularly in seminars, he was almost without equal amongst economists of his time. His published work was a delight to read for he had the knack of taking the reader into his confidence and of leading him through a maze of complications without losing track of the general direction of the argument.

The development of economic thought since 1930 owes a great deal to Hicks. Of a quiet and retiring disposition, he will be remembered by all who knew him both with respect and with affection.

His wife died in 1985.

MAJ-GEN JOHN WITT

Veteran of the Army Service Corps

Major-General John Witt, CB, CBE, MC, who died on May 18 at the age of 92, was one of the few surviving members of the original Army Service Corps — the forerunner of the Royal Army Service Corps and today's Royal Corps of Transport.

He had the unique distinction of being the Director of Supply and Transport successively in the General Headquarters of the Army's three major overseas commands immediately after the Second World War: Rhine Army, 1946-48; Far East Land Forces, 1948-49; and Middle East Land Forces, 1950-53.

"Johnnie" Witt was born on 15 January 1897, the only son of the Rev A.R. Witt of the Army Chaplains' Department. He was educated at The King's School, Canterbury

and Sandhurst before being commissioned into the Army Service Corps in December 1914.

He had a successful war, winning the MC for bravery, which was less easily achieved in the Army Service Corps than in the combat arms. Nevertheless, he remained a captain for 22 years, such was the stagnation and lack of promotion in the Army of the inter-war years, during which he saw overseas service in the first Rhine Army of the 1920s, and in India and Egypt in the 1930s. As an instructor at the RASC training centre in the mid-1930s he is remembered as the inspiration of many young officers, who later became generals.

During the Second World War he came to the fore as a logistic planner in Head-

quarters, Home Forces, and was "specially employed" from 1943-46 as its Director of Supply and Transport's principal operational planner for the invasion of Normandy, and for subsequent operations mounted from the United Kingdom such as the supply of the Resistance on the Continent, the airborne landings at Arnhem and flying supplies to the Polish uprising in Warsaw.

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Henry Gee
Service, 1983

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TELEVISION AND RADIO

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The age of the biosensor

Peter Waymark

Back, after some nibbling around the fringes, to its traditional role of reporting fundamental advances in science, *Horizon* (BBC2, 8.10pm) focuses on the emerging world of the biosensor. And if that sounds like a heavy meal for a Monday evening, Alec Nisbett's film makes it palatable by revealing some of the everyday human consequences that should flow from a complex scientific development. Diabetes, for one, will be grateful to the biosensor, which can also provide a quick and efficient early warning system for hereditary diseases like haemophilia and cystic fibrosis, and an equally effective test for the freshness of food and for herbicides in water. The biosensor exploits the concept of the "sixth sense", possessed by every living creature, by using a biological system, such as an enzyme, to recognize chemical changes and express them electronically on a display or print-out. For the diabetic, a glucose-sensing pen has been developed that, used in conjunction with a plastic strip, will analyse a blood sample and give an almost immediate reading of blood glucose levels. Pregnancy testing is another area for the biosensor, and the programme looks



Tough policy: instructor Anne Fisher of the Canadian police (BBC1, 9.30)

forward to the day when the doctor's surgery will be able to offer quick diagnoses of a range of complaints, instead of having to send samples away for analysis. There is a commercial story as well. The glucose-sensing pens are made by an Anglo-American firm in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and Britain and America are strongly placed in both research and industrial development. But Japan is threatening to catch up fast. After a muddled report last week on the malaise in British football, *Panorama* (BBC1, 9.30pm) is on safer ground tonight, looking at domestic violence to women. In *Punching Judy*, Rolaia McAuley points the contrast between the alarming statistics — in London alone each year 100,000 women need medical treatment after attacks in the home — and the small number of cases coming to court. An important reason for this is the reluctance of women to press charges or give evidence. In Canada, the police compel women to give evidence, a tough policy supported by counselling for victims, their children, and the perpetrators. The programme discusses the merits of the Canadian system and asks whether it should be followed here.

- BBC1**
- 6.00 *Cee-eez* AM. News headlines, weather, travel and sports bulletins
 - 6.30 *The Flintstones in the Flintstones* (TV)
 - 6.55 *Weather*
 - 7.00 *Breakfast Time* with Kirsty Wark and Mike Smith. Includes national and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; weather at 7.55, 7.55 and 8.30; regional news and travel reports at 7.57, 7.57 and 8.37, 8.35 Regional news and weather
 - 9.00 News and weather followed by *De Kildare*. Episode one of a four-part medical drama about the rights and wrongs of abortion. Starring Richard Chamberlain and Raymond Waddell
 - 10.25 *Children's BBC* introduced by Andy Crane begins with *Playbox* (7.10-10.30) *The Wombles* (7.10-10.30) *Five to Eleven*. Joanna Lumley with a reading
 - 11.00 News and weather followed by *House and Home*. Nicholas Taylor continues his history of the English small house with a portrait of the White Hart Lane LCC cottage estate in London (7.10-11.00)
 - 11.30 *The Journey*. Peter Terson and Dennis Skelton continue their journey by gypsy caravan along the Pilgrims' Way from Winchester to Canterbury (7.10-11.30)
 - 12.00 News and weather followed by *Dallas*. Chaco reigns after the murder of a man in Martinique (7.10-12.00) *The Historyman*. Bryan MacKenzie and the Longthorpe Tower (first shown on BBC East). 12.55 Regional news and weather
 - 1.00 *One O'Clock News* with Philip Hayton. Weather
 - 1.30 *Neighbours*. Paul and Scott organise a stag party for Jim on the eve of his marriage to Beverly, and Henry enjoys himself as Scott and Charlene help him out of his business predicament. 1.50 *Look, Stranger*. A portrait of Buster Keaton who owns one of the largest health clubs in Europe (7.10-1.30)
 - 2.15 *Inside*. The Chief sends his assistants to South America to investigate a murder suspect. Starring Raymond Burr (7.10-2.15) *The Hogan Family*. American domestic comedy series
 - 3.25 *Hairs and Greases*. Lady Victoria Leatham visits Peterhouse Place, Kent, the home of Viscount and Viscountess De L'Isle. With her are John Bly who discovers one of his favourite places of English furniture, and Roy Butler who admires the family collection of armour (first shown on BBC South and East)
 - 3.50 *The Family Nest* (7.10-4.00) *Betty* *Adventures* (7.10-4.10) *Defenders of the Earth*. Animated science fiction adventure (7.10-4.30) *The Bortons*. Serial
 - 5.00 *Newsworld* 5.05 *Blue Peter* with Mark Curry, Carol Keating, Yvette Flaxfield and John Leslie. (7.10-5.55) *News* with Nicholas Mitchell and Philip Hayton. Weather
 - 6.30 *Newsworld* South East introduced by Guy Michelson
 - 7.00 *Wogan* with Sue Lawley
 - 7.30 *What a Carry On*. Clips from the successful *Carry On* series of comedy films (7.10-7.30)
 - 8.00 *The River*. Comedy series starring David Essex as a rock-keeper and Katy Murphy as the young woman in his life (7.10-8.00)
 - 8.30 *Wildlife on One*. Parrot Fashion. This latest programme of the series examines the lives of parrots in the wild and investigates their relationship with man. With film from Australia, New Zealand, Africa and South America. Narrated by David Attenborough. (7.10-8.30)
 - 9.00 *News* with Philip Hayton. Weather
 - 9.30 *Panorama*. *Punching Judy*. See choice
 - 10.10 *Mistral Vice*. Crockett's life is on the line when his new wife's successful career attracts the attention of corrupt music executives. Starring Don Johnson, Philip Michael Thomas and Sherry Stringfield
 - 10.55 *Past* — the Really Useful Guide to Alcohol. Interesting advice for men and women on safe levels of alcohol consumption
 - 11.25 *Mediterranean Cookery*. Claudia Roden samples Turkish fare (7.10-11.25)
 - 11.55 *Weather*

- BBC2**
- 6.00 TV-am begins with *News* and *The Morning Programme* introduced by Richard Kay. 7.00 *News* followed by *Good Morning Britain* presented by Mike Morris and Kathy Taylor. 8.00 *News* and *After* which includes an item on breast feeding
 - 8.25 *Cross Wit*. Crossword game show hosted by Tom O'Connor. The guests are John Junken and Janice Long. 9.55 *Thames* news and weather
 - 10.00 *The Time... The Place...* Mike Scott chairs a discussion on a topical matter
 - 10.40 *This Morning*. Magazine series presented by Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley. Today's edition includes a conservation item and advice on planning weddings. Plus national and international news at 10.45 and regional news at 11.15
 - 12.10 *Live*. Preview of the *12.30* *The Clock That Went On Strike*. 12.30 *A Country Practice*. Medical drama serial set in a remote Australian sheep township
 - 1.00 *News* at One with John Suchet. Weather 1.30 *Thames* news and weather 1.30 *Gardening Time*. Tractor and spiderwork
 - 1.45 *Flare*. Sink the Bismarck! (1960). (TV) starring Kenneth More. Second World War naval drama about the Allied plans to destroy a powerful German Navy vessel. Directed by Lewis Allen
 - 3.25 *Thames* news and weather 3.30 *The Young Doctors*. Medical drama serial set in a large Australian city hospital
 - 4.00 *The Talebans* (7.10-4.05) *Thomas the Tank Engine and Friends* narrated by Fergus Storr (7.10-4.20) *The Real Ghostbusters*. Cartoon series 4.45 *When Will I Be Famous?* With 40 young theatrical hopefuls at the Anna Scher Summer School
 - 5.10 *Home and Away*. Drama serial about an Australian couple and their five foster children
 - 5.40 *News* with Fiona Armstrong. Weather 5.55 *Thames* news and weather
 - 6.30 *Thames Reports* investigates the problems of putting psychiatric patients back into the community with inadequate back-up to care for them
 - 7.00 *The Cook Report*. Roger Cook investigates another instance of wrongdoing
 - 7.30 *Coronation Street*. Alec makes a sudden domestic decision; and the staff at the cafe are bending over backwards to please Anna Sedgewick (7.10-7.30)
 - 8.00 *Just For Laughs*. Compilation of clips from the *Just For Laughs* festival in Montreal
 - 8.30 *World in Action*: Israel's War. A portrait of Israel's Gali, commander of a group of Mujahideen warriors, who only three years ago was a boy in a London suburb
 - 9.00 *News* at Ten with Alan Stewart and Alastair Stewart. 10.30 *Thames* news and weather
 - 10.35 *A Tale of Two Cities* continued
 - 11.30 *Film*: *Satan's Triangle* (1974) starring Kim Novak and Doug McClure. A made-for-television thriller about a woman who is the only survivor from a ship which sinks in a mysterious stretch of sea known as the Devil's Triangle. Directed by Sutton Roley
 - 12.45 *Sportscast* with Tony Francis introduces highlights from the Lancie Italian Open Golf championship
 - 2.00 *News* followed by *Film*: *Friendly Enemies* (1942-47) starring Charles Winger and Charles Bickford. The story of two wealthy Germans, great friends from the time they emigrated to the United States. But their friendship is put under strain when they take opposing sides at the outset of the Second World War. Directed by Allan Dwan
 - 4.00 *News* followed by 60 Minutes. Interviews and investigations from the United States
 - 5.00 *ITN Morning News* with Branda Rowe. Ends at 6.00.

- BBC2**
- 6.55 *Open University: Maths* — Calculus. Ends at 7.20.
 - 9.00 *Cartoon*
 - 9.40 *Daytime on Two*: Job sharing 10.05 For four- and five-year olds 10.15 Music time 10.40 *Canals* and narrow boats 10.55 *Greek* drama 11.00 *After* (meal) 11.15 *Music* 11.40 *Ministrations* 11.45 Using the computer 11.50 *Cee-eez* 12.15 *Passage* and his germ theory of disease 12.35 *Cee-eez* 1.00 *A-level biology* genetics
 - 1.25 *Green*, narrated by Frances Hayte 1.30 *Hugo*, the Man of the Snows. The first of a new series narrated by Frances Hayte 1.40 *Landmark*. Albert takes his granddaughters to a school where he used to spend his holidays
 - 2.00 *News* and weather followed by *Words and Pictures* presented by Victoria O'Brien
 - 2.15 *Val O'Connor's Homeward Bound* with guests Chris De Seign and the Furys (7.10-2.30) *Holiday* Country. Camping in Turkey (7.10-2.30) *News* and weather followed by *Living on the Land*. A wild horse travels the lives of a family (7.10-2.30) *News*, regional news and weather
 - 4.00 *After Adlard Colles*. Paul Harvey cruises in the Solent and visits the Isle of Wight (7.10-4.30) *Country* File investigates barrier schemes (7.10-4.30) *The Way of the Warrior*. Martial arts series (7.10-4.30)
 - 5.35 *Thames*. The European championships from Brussels, introduced by Barry Davies
 - 6.40 *DEF* it begins with *Three Waves* — a classic highlights of a wrestling competition held in October 1987 in Scotland (7.10-7.10) *That Was Then... This Is Now*. The story of the group 'The Beatles'
 - 7.40 *The Restaurant Cook*. Actor Jimmy Nail is the guest in this last of the series (7.10-7.40)
 - 8.10 *Horizon*. *The New Sixth Sense*. (7.10-8.10) *News* and weather
 - 9.00 *Film*: *A Deadly Puzzle* (1982) starring John Valentini and Ben Masters. A made-for-television thriller about a wife investigating the reported death of her husband in a plane crash off the coast of France. Directed by Walter Grauman. (7.10-9.00)
 - 10.30 *News* and weather
 - 11.15 *The Late Show* includes a report on New York rap 11.55 *Weather*
 - 12.00 *Open University: Ultraviolet* — Rohan Collier. Ends at 12.30am.

- BBC1**
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- CHANNEL 4**
- 6.00 *The Channel Four Daily* 6.25 *News*
 - 12.00 *The Sons of Abraham*. In the footsteps made 4,000 years ago by Abraham on his journey from Ur to Jerusalem (7.10-12.00)
 - 12.30 *Business Daily*. Financial and business news service
 - 1.00 *Makes It Count*. Elementary arithmetic series presented by Fred Harris (7.10-1.30) *Circuit Training*. Basic electronics (7.10-1.30)
 - 2.00 *Film*: *Dinner at Eight* (1933, b/w) starring Jean Harlow. Drama about a flighty society hostess who decides to throw a dinner party for an aristocratic British couple. Directed by George Cukor
 - 4.05 *Film*: *Whirlwind* (1939, b/w) starring Dick Purcell. Drama about a young man, desperate for money who is tricked into selling secret aircraft plans to a foreign spy. Directed by Fred Zinnemann
 - 4.30 *Fifteen-to-One*
 - 5.00 *The Late Late Show*. Dublin's music and chat show
 - 6.00 *Happy Days*. American high school comedy series
 - 6.30 *Make Way for the Lord*. Chancelor. Lord Mackay of Chalfont defends himself on two fronts — from the church of which he is a member, accusing him of defying its law, and from parts of the legal profession who are opposed to his radical reforms
 - 7.00 *Channel 4 News* with Jon Snow and Nicholas Owen
 - 7.50 *Comment* followed by *Weather*
 - 8.00 *Brookside*. Rod is in for an unwelcome surprise. (7.10-8.00)
 - 8.30 *Kate & Allie*. Comedy series
 - 9.00 *Film*: *Fall Safe* (1964, b/w) starring Henry Fonda, Walter Matthau and Dan O'Herlihy. Science fiction thriller about a wing of B-52 bombers with a nuclear payload who are ordered to bomb Moscow after a wrong signal is transmitted by an aircraft fault. Directed by Sidney Lumet
 - 11.10 *The Eleventh Hour*. From Marks to Marx. Film-makers from Newcastle go to Rostock in East Germany to see what life is like there; and a crew from Rostock pay a reciprocal visit
 - 1.20am *Film*: *Homeground* (1983) starring David Whitaker as a photographer who returns to his Sunderland roots, but the visit doesn't go as planned. Directed by Anthony Harrod. Ends at 2.20.

- SATELLITE**
- SKY CHANNEL**
- 5.30 *European Business Channel* 6.00 *The DJ Kai Show* 6.30 *Panel Pot* 7.00 *The DJ Kai Show* 7.30 *Panel Pot* 8.00 *The DJ Kai Show* 8.30 *Panel Pot* 9.00 *The DJ Kai Show* 9.30 *Panel Pot* 10.00 *The DJ Kai Show* 10.30 *Panel Pot* 11.00 *The DJ Kai Show* 11.30 *Panel Pot* 12.00 *The DJ Kai Show* 12.30 *Panel Pot* 1.00 *The DJ Kai Show* 1.30 *Panel Pot* 1.50 *The DJ Kai Show* 2.00 *The DJ Kai Show* 2.30 *Panel Pot* 3.00 *The DJ Kai Show* 3.30 *Panel Pot* 4.00 *The DJ Kai Show* 4.30 *Panel Pot* 5.00 *The DJ Kai Show* 5.30 *Panel Pot* 6.00 *The DJ Kai Show* 6.30 *Panel Pot* 7.00 *The DJ Kai Show* 7.30 *Panel Pot* 8.00 *The DJ Kai Show* 8.30 *Panel Pot* 9.00 *The DJ Kai Show* 9.30 *Panel Pot* 10.00 *The DJ Kai Show* 10.30 *Panel Pot* 11.00 *The DJ Kai Show* 11.30 *Panel Pot* 12.00 *The DJ Kai Show* 12.30 *Panel Pot* 1.00 *The DJ Kai Show* 1.30 *Panel Pot* 1.50 *The DJ Kai Show* 2.00 *The DJ Kai Show* 2.30 *Panel Pot* 3.00 *The DJ Kai Show* 3.30 *Panel Pot* 4.00 *The DJ Kai Show* 4.30 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● LAW 39
● SPORT 39-44

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

CHANGE ON WEEK
THE POUND
US dollar
1.5190 (-0.0445)
W German mark
3.1894 (+0.0055)
Exchange index
94.5 (-0.7)

(STOCK MARKET)
FT 30 Share
1837.5 (+58.4)
FT-SE 100
2204.7 (+69.0)
USM (Datastream)
170.05 (+1.52)

Beecham to give merger details

Beecham will write to shareholders this week setting out details of its £9 billion merger with SmithKline Beecham of the US for clearance at an extraordinary meeting on June 20 (Martin Waller writes).

Any hostile rival bidders for SmithKline - or for the British group - will then have one month to stake their claim before the deal is completed at the end of July.

Mr Hugh Collum, the Beecham finance director, said yesterday the last loose ends were being tied up before the documents, which would also contain the company's preliminary figures for the year to end-March, could be released. Beecham has already indicated a pre-tax profit of about £490 million.

Mr Collum said there had been "considerable interest" from parties wanting to acquire Beecham's cosmetics business, which includes Yardley and Lethbridge.

Prince backs charity plan

The Prince of Wales is backing a scheme to make decision-makers in commerce and industry more familiar with the voluntary organizations and charities in their community.

The Corporate Affiliation Scheme, unveiled today by the National Council of Voluntary Organisations, seeks to help companies devise more structured and systematic long-term policies for their charitable giving.

GrandMet 'in seafood sale'

Grand Metropolitan is thought to be selling Pillsbury's seafood businesses, Bumble Bee and Van de Kamp, which together could command a price of more than £200 million.

GrandMet would not comment on reports that the two businesses might be about to change hands. But Mr Ian Martin, head of the Pillsbury operations, said recently that a "strategic review" of the entire business was taking place.

BAT success

A strong performance from its eucalyptus pulp associated company Aracruz helped lift net profits at Souza Cruz Industria e Comercio, BAT Industries' 75 per cent-owned Brazilian subsidiary, to 79.55 million new cruzados (\$44 million) in the first quarter to end-March, up 178 per cent in real terms.

CBI award

The Confederation of British Industry today launches its annual search for its Company of the Year to take the 1989 Business Enterprise Award. Last year's winner was Iceland Frozen Foods.

Virgin win

Virgin Atlantic Airways has won the first Young Company of the Year Award sponsored by Arrows, the trade financier.

Pernod buys

Pernod-Ricard of France has acquired a majority stake in Orlando Wines, one of Australia's biggest wine makers.

TOURIST RATES

	Back	Bank
Australia	2.22	22.00
Austria	23.25	22.00
Belgium	36.75	33.00
Canada	70.15	70.00
Denmark	12.85	12.50
Finland	7.40	7.00
France	11.77	10.50
Germany	5.57	5.50
Greece	284.50	284.50
Hong Kong	13.14	12.50
India	13.94	13.75
Italy	2615.00	2250.00
Japan	238.00	235.00
Netherlands	16.25	16.00
Norway	11.88	11.50
Portugal	274.00	264.00
South Africa	1.42	1.40
Spain	205.75	192.75
Sweden	11.20	10.50
Switzerland	2.85	2.75
Turkey	2055.00	2025.00
USA	1.29	1.25
Yugoslavia	1000.00	1000.00

Notes for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclay Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers cheques.
Retail Prices Index 112.3 (March)
***** RK

Bond looks at media expansion in UK

From Danielle Robinson, Sydney

Mr Alan Bond is considering expanding Bond Corporation Holdings' media assets with newspaper and publishing acquisitions in Australia and overseas, including London.

He is also looking to trim Bond Corp's 58 per cent holding in its associate Bell Resources to 40 per cent now that Bond Corp has sold its worldwide brewing assets to Bell for Aus\$3.5 billion (£1.6 billion).

The move to reduce the stake in Bell could open the way for a takeover bid for Bell.

Mr Bond said Bond Corp was "looking at whether we will get

further into newspapers in this country and in other countries" and there were also "publishing possibilities" in London and Europe.

The newspaper assets include the *West Australian*, Western Australia's only morning tabloid, some suburban newspapers and other publishing activities.

Bond Media Limited, 53 per cent owned by Bond Corp, owns the Nine Network television stations, radio stations in Sydney and Perth and a 33 per cent stake in the British Satellite Broadcasting, the British satellite television network.

He also said there was a possibility he would tidy up his media

assets, perhaps by putting them all into one company.

Bond Media holds the broadcasting and radio interests while Bond Corp holds the print media interests.

Mr Bond said he was not interested in selling Bond Media, despite receiving several offers, and said he would "fight for years" to avoid having to sell the Nine Network.

The Australian Broadcasting Tribunal last month found that Mr Bond misled it at two inquiries, made improper payments to a politician and threatened a senior investment manager with exposure

on Channel Nine. This month the Tribunal will decide Mr Bond's fitness to hold a broadcasting licence.

On the question of reducing Bond Corp's holding in Bell to 40 per cent, Mr Bond said: "The market wants to see that there is a possibility of a takeover in any of these investments."

"And if we have got more than 50 per cent they don't accept there is any takeover premium possible."

This might encourage local and overseas institutional support for the shares, he indicated, emphasising that both Bell and Bond Corp would need greater institu-

tional support "to be in a strong position in the world markets."

Mr Bond also said he had no intention at this stage of selling the Bond empire's 20 per cent stake in Loarho, even though the holding was earning a return of about 8 per cent only.

International credit rating agency Moody's Investors Service has also placed the debt ratings of Bond Brewing Holdings Limited and its subsidiary Bond Brewing Western Australia Limited under review.

Moody's said that it had done so after last week's announcement of Bond Corp's plan to sell its brewing assets to Bell Resources.

Concern over sale of South West

By Graham Searjeant and Colin Narborough

Government advisers are concerned about the privatization of South West Water, the smallest and most accident-prone authority, which had another incident on Tuesday involving 500 gallons of aluminium sulphate being spilled into the Torridge estuary in Devon.

South West earned extremely bad publicity locally by a much more serious accident last summer, when water supplies in north Cornwall were poisoned by 20 tonnes of aluminium sulphate which were tipped into the wrong tank at a water-treatment works.

Local interest in buying shares in the authority may be particularly low in November, when it is scheduled to be privatized, although the shares are likely to be priced at less than £200 million.

South West also faces high spending to clean up 17 coastal bathing waters which

Whitehall worries, page 27

Plan to use me and my project has backfired, says De Savary

Blue Arrow in shares check

By David Brewerton

Blue Arrow has been searching its share register for evidence that Mr Peter de Savary, the property developer to whom it made a controversial £25 million loan last December, has been involved in share transactions.

The search, according to Mr Bruce Gray, Blue Arrow's company secretary, went back to July 1987 and covered the period of the company's rights issue, which flopped after the October 1987 crash.

Mr Gray confirmed that he had searched for all the known names of Mr de Savary's companies and for Mr de Savary himself. "We went back to July 1987 but there is no connection that I could find," he said.

Mr de Savary said he had not had any dealings in Blue Arrow shares and had not supported the market at the time of the rights issue.

The rights issue came at a delicate time in the negotiations for the sponsorship of the Blue Arrow challenge in the America's Cup yacht racing. Mr de Savary said this weekend that the sponsorship "was not my idea, they approached me. I had finished with the America's Cup."

Mr Tony Berry, the former chairman and chief executive of Blue Arrow, also pressed Mr de Savary to allow it into the Canvey Island land deal, the millionaire yachtman said. "I had two other parties pressing me to do the same deal."

Blue Arrow went into the deal to try to defray the costs of mounting the yacht challenge, which had risen to an estimated £15 million.

The Canvey Island develop-

ment, against which Blue Arrow made a full £25 million provision, could be worth £200 million, Mr de Savary said.

Mr de Savary maintained that if Blue Arrow pulled out of the deal it would deprive Blue Arrow shareholders of a substantial profit which rightly belonged to them.

"I and my project have been used as a tool for internal squabbling reasons," he said. "The best they will now achieve is to get their money back with interest, and they will have deprived their shareholders of a great deal of profit."

Mr de Savary insists that the circumstances surrounding the loan have been used as a stick with which to beat Mr Berry out of office.

"They had a plan to use me and my project and frankly it has backfired on them."

"Some bright spark had the bright idea why don't they put the frightened on de Savary and make him take us out early? They may be able to do that in America, but I do not respond to it well. We are upset that shareholders are being led by the nose and deprived of profits that are theirs by right."

"There are 1,300 acres, and 460 have industrial planning permission. A lead-free petrol plant built on those 460 acres would justify a valuation of £80 million, and then you can scratch your head about the rest. There is a 1.1 mile jetty, which would cost £72 million to build, capable of taking ships up to 18 metres."

"You cannot buy industrial land at less than £250,000 an acre. But let's call that £200,000. Call it 400 acres not 460, and you still get to £80 million. And then you have

another 300 acres with permission for another refinery. "When you look at what you can do with the rest, you move into areas of value approaching £200 million."

"We are going for the bigger fish, but are totally secure on the smaller fish."

Mr de Savary's confidence is supported by two conditional valuations: one by Jones Lang Wootton in "the order of £75 million to £85 million," and Debenham Tewson & Chinnocks for £75 million.

He criticized the valuation from Drivers Jonas at £13.25 million. "They didn't speak to the authorities, they didn't speak to me," he said.

Mr de Savary said that Mr Mitchell Fromstein, the chairman of Blue Arrow, knows the company is not going to lose £25 million on the land. "I am genuinely incensed."

The Blue Arrow circular issued over the weekend discloses that Mr Berry, who resigned on Thursday, had come to an "unauthorized" arrangement with Tottenham Hotspur Football Club to guarantee a £3.5 million loan and to be less than last resort on 36 executive boxes being built at the ground. Mr Berry is a Spurs director and owns 7.8 per cent of the shares.

The Department of Trade and Industry yesterday dismissed as "wild speculation" a report that it was urgently scrutinizing the latest news about Blue Arrow's £25 million loan to Mr de Savary to see whether action is warranted under the Companies Act.

When asked if the DTI felt obliged to intervene in the light of the details now revealed, a spokesman said: "Our view is that this is a matter between Blue Arrow and its shareholders."



'Genuinely incensed': Peter de Savary and his wife Lana yesterday

Pound set for further blow on trade data

By Colin Narborough

The pound faces the prospect of another bad week in the foreign exchange markets after shedding 5 cents against the surging dollar last week.

With the dollar seemingly irrepressible, and fears that Britain's April trade figures, out on Thursday, will widen from the £1.2 billion shortfall in March, market sentiment will not favour sterling.

Fresh doubts about the political future and policies of Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, raised by the Prime Minister's remarks on Friday, are also likely to depress markets.

On Friday, the pound showed little reaction to news that inflation had accelerated to 8 per cent in April - its highest since 1982 and the level at which Mr Lawson said it would peak this year.

Increased costs in the pipeline point to the retail price index moving still higher before falling back, fuelling rising pay demands. Though the Government is pledged to a stable pound, central bank intervention last week failed to seriously check the dollar. A fall in sterling against the dollar will only bring in more inflation. Analysts are already talking of a double digit rate.

In London on Friday, the pound showed slight gains, closing at \$1.6190 and DM3.1894.

The preliminary retail sales figures for April, building orders and new vehicle registrations all appear on Wednesday and could shed more light on Mr Lawson's success in slowing down the economy.

Mr Lawson voiced concern at the weekend that the dollar's continued climb could be a repetition of the surges in 1983, 1984 and 1985, which left lasting damage, including increased protectionist sentiment in the US.

City airline gives free unit trusts

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

London City Airways passengers are being offered free unit trusts in a promotion aimed at attracting businessmen to use City Airport.

The airline - part of the Airlines of Britain Group which also runs British Midland - has signed an agreement with James Capel, the broker, by which every passenger who buys a full-price ticket between now and December 15 will automatically qualify for a £25 voucher towards the James Capel European Index Fund.

Capel, which has a normal minimum investment limit of £1,000 in the fund, has agreed

to reduce this to £75 for London City passengers.

There is no limit on the number of vouchers which anyone can take. Any businessman, therefore, making 100 round trips, for example, during the rest of this year could acquire a potential investment of £2,500.

Mr Jonathan Wilson, general manager of London City Airways, said yesterday: "This has never been done before, but is perfectly legal and acceptable."

The scheme coincides with the increase in the number of flights being offered by the airline to Paris.

Ranks to abandon GFW bid

By Martin Waller

Ranks Hovis McDougall, the foods group, will today abandon its £1.4 billion bid for the Australian Goodman Fielder Wattle after last week's arrival on Ranks' share register of the Rothschild-Goldsmith-Packer triumvirate.

Ranks now has virtually no chance of proceeding with the offer. The trio of Mr Jacob Rothschild, Sir James Goldsmith and Mr Kerry Packer, who hold 29.9 per cent, claim it has no industrial logic.

Goodman Fielder has effectively put its old adversary into play, with a break-up of the group, whose brand names include Mother's Pride, Mr Kipling cakes, Bisto gravy and Sharwood's, expected. The shares closed on Friday at 449p.

Rise in store card debt to £1.16bn

By Our City Staff

Shoppers are going deeper into debt with the high street stores offering credit cards, but are spreading their borrowing across more pieces of plastic, according to figures published today by the Retail Credit Group.

The RCG, which represents leading store chains offering their own cards, reports that, despite the high cost of retail credit, the total of credit outstanding to its members in the year to the end of March was £1.16 billion.

This was 3.1 per cent higher than the previous year and represented about 1 per cent of total consumer credit, mortgages included.

But the number of customer accounts rose 8 per cent to 7.7 million over the same period, lowering the average amount

owed per credit card £7 to £154 in the process.

The report, based on figures collected from the Burton Group, Dixons, Marks and Spencer, Granada, Littlewoods, Next, Rumbelows and Storehouse, said the fall in outstanding credit per store card continued the trend seen since the stores began collecting data four and a half years ago.

Miss Elizabeth Stanton, the RCG director, said the figures show clearly that retail accounts are increasing in popularity.

"Members of the group value their account holders; equally, customers are using their accounts responsibly, while enjoying the convenience and privileges they bring."

Deal turns sour as California film shares fail to take off

Ramsden is pulled up by \$15m loss

From Philip Robinson
Los Angeles

Mr Terry Ramsden, the financier and former racehorse owner, who bets more than £1 million a year and was once reputed to have gambling debts of £2 million, has lost almost \$15 million (£9 million) in Los Angeles - off the racecourse.

Mr Ramsden lost the best part of a \$16 million investment in a company which put the colour into black and white films, but which admits its future is in doubt.

Three years ago, shares in Color Systems Technology, based amid the multi-million dollar yachts in the fashionable district of Marina Del Rey

looked set to soar. Its new system of adding colour to black and white films seemed ready to make a fortune. Mr Ramsden acquired 700,000 shares at about \$23 a share, close to the all-time high of \$29.50.

Last week, official filings with the American Securities and Exchange Commission showed Mr Ramsden had cut his 13 per cent stake to 5.6 per cent, selling almost 400,000 shares for little more than \$1 each and losing almost \$9 million cash on the stake.

Mr Buddy Young, the Color Systems chairman, said: "I haven't talked to Mr Ramsden for about a year now. He sold the shares for private reasons related to

interests in Britain." In March, Color Systems liabilities exceeded its assets by almost \$12 million.

Mr Young, whose salary was \$150,000 last year, told shareholders in his first 1989 quarterly report: "There can be no assurance that the company will be able to restructure its debts or obtain additional capital, or that either or both will be sufficient for the company to continue in existence for the next 12 months."

Mr Ramsden held the shares through Glen International, owned by Bestheim, which is owned by Lynburg, a company controlled by the American Terence P. Ramsden Grant or Trust, whose sole beneficiary is Mr Ramsden.

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TEMPUS

Solid growth at M&S puts shine back into stores sector

For a long while, the one-time high flyers of the stores sector, Burton, Storehouse, Dixons, Next and many more, have looked like a band of walking wounded. But there will be lots of money made when the fallen stars of the stores sector begin to shine again.

Those who earn their living by spotting the turn of the tide have been itching to put out the "buy" signals. Some thought they had seen the bottom in the past few weeks when the sector picked up from its lowest rating relative to the market for 13 years and started at last to gain ground. But are we seeing the light at the end of the tunnel or merely another train approaching fast the opposite way?

Stores which remain exposed to high fashion and whose customers are worst hit by the interest rate squeeze have further pain to endure. Probably the fallen stars will stay grounded for a while and the sector charts are giving off misleading signals.

The apparent upturn is largely due to advances by a few safe defensive shares such as Kingfisher and Marks and Spencer, which alone accounts for perhaps 25 per cent of the sector's value. Rather than a general re-rating, a two-tier store shares market is likely.

If the 60-strong audience at



Marks and Spencer's pedigree showing through: Lord Rayner

an M&S presentation for analysts and institutions recently is any guide, it should not be too difficult to see where the smart money is going.

The case for M&S, propounded by securities houses such as Goldman Sachs and Smith New Court, is clear. After a substantial de-rating from a 70 per cent premium to the market to 10 per cent, when the flashier groups such as Burton and Next were making

the running, M&S's pedigree is showing through. Its growth over the next few years is solidly based and ought to be reflected more clearly in the share price.

M&S's legendary cost and margin control and its solid profits growth last year, when many of its rivals were reaching for the aspirin, are only part of the story.

M&S, led by Lord Rayner, has fewer customers than

most of its rivals in the hard-hat 25 to 44 age bracket and ranks highly among the relatively better-off over-45s.

Like Sainsbury, M&S has poured money into electronic point-of-sale and information technology. Both Sainsbury and, to a lesser extent, Tesco are reaping the benefits in terms of faster stock response and store productivity. With M&S, the benefits of the heavy spend (almost £120 mil-

lion last year) are set to come through in the next few years.

The group is spinning off cash at a great rate, margins are advancing and there is considerable recovery potential abroad. At 196p, roughly 13.5 times expected earnings, M&S is not far off a 20-year low relative to the market. Can that be a bad time to lock away some shares?

Wilson (Connolly)

With homeowners reeling under the impact of sky-high mortgage rates, some builders are wondering from where their next sale or three is coming. Wilson (Connolly) is made of much sterner stuff. Mr Lynn Wilson, the chairman, delivered a spirited, even bullish, address to shareholders at Friday's annual meeting. Construction and property activities were moving ahead at a pace and looked highly encouraging, he said.

To City followers of the housebuilding industry, the stock is an outstanding performer in a patchy sector. Its earnings per share and dividends have both grown at an annual compound rate of 30 per cent over the past 10 years — a record not many can match.

Housing completions were deliberately scaled down to preserve the land bank, one of the group's jewels which will stand it in good stead for a further six-and-a-half years at last year's pace.

Add to the land bank about £275 million of a property development programme that can be sold or held for investment as required. With this kind of flexibility and only 30 per cent gearing, the group looks set to maintain its progress for a good few years without the sharp downturns that will hit its weaker brethren.

On the BZW forecast of £64 million, Wilson shares, now 174p, sell for a p/e of 7.4. They are well worth the premium rating in a sector which has yet to bottom out.

Edited by John Bell

GILT-EDGED

Profit margins the key to inflation prospects

One is tempted to report that nothing is happening in the gilt market. Certainly volume figures would justify this statement but the discussion accompanying the business reveals two important changes in perception. The first relates to economic forecasts, the second to inflation.

In the past two years, the market and, indeed, policy makers received a series of shocks when first the trade balance and then inflation drifted badly off course. Domestic demand forecasts proved seriously wrong and the levels of uncertainty rose. But now there are signs that the predictability of the British economy is much improved.

The real economic evidence coming in for 1989 is in line with the "soft landing" scenario expected by most forecasts. The impact of higher interest rates seems to be coming through in classic fashion, first via the housing market, then through spending on durables and services.

There have been no nasty surprises in terms of trade figures and inflation; indeed these have tended to be on the positive side of expectations to date (I am well aware of tempting fate by saying this in a week in which the April trade figures are published).

There now seems a greater problem with market impatience than with the economic statistics. It is highly unlikely in this environment that official policy will change at all, yet commentators are competing to guess the extent or even the direction of the next base rate change.

There is little publicity value in saying "no panic, no change" but this does seem the most likely outcome. It is quite conceivable that 1989 will be the first year since 1959 when base rates remain unchanged all year.

What would cause us to change our view? Since we believe British rates are now more closely related to West German rates than those in the US, a sharp rise in German rates would be a concern if the British eco-

nomie slowdown signals were not convincing. This shift in relationship from the US to Germany is one of many present changes in perceptions about British rates.

But it is clearly difficult, in an era when perceptions about what constitutes a "high" interest rate have also changed, to gauge the impact rates can have. To assist with this problem, we have developed a measure of monetary policy which attempts to make allowance for these changes in perception and allows us to consider whether the present level of rates is truly a "crisis level."

According to this measure the sharp rise in rates to 13 per cent provides the biggest shock to the economy for 10 years and is not far short of the impact 17 per cent rates had in 1979, or that 12½ per cent had in 1974.

But this measure also illustrates the point that the longer rates stay at 13 per cent, the less this is regarded as a crisis level. The "shock effect" of high interest rates on demand, therefore, wears off — precisely the background for the desired soft landing.

The change in perception on inflation is more interesting and relevant. It would appear that inflation is being regarded as a real rather than a monetary phenomenon. More attention seems to be placed on the current inflation as a "demand-pull" variety than the product of previous monetary excesses. An 8 per cent inflation rate now may not seem so surprising after a year in which domestic demand volume growth was also 8 per cent.

This is not to deny the significance of the monetary policy easing of 1986 and 1987 in overstimulating domestic demand. Rather, it gives recognition to the greater market focus on wage earnings and profit margin trends than money supply growth. Indeed, profit margins could become the lead indicator for setting inflation expectations.

The fall in inflation to

below 6 per cent envisaged for the second half of this year depends entirely on profit margins reducing. The disagreement between those who believe core inflation is stuck at 6 per cent-plus and those who take a more optimistic stance will be resolved by the path taken by margins.

The market is well aware that most of Britain's retail inflation for 1986 and 1987 was attributed to rising profit margins. Costs were broadly unchanged. The question now is whether the first cyclical slowdown in a deregulated environment will bring as vigorous a reduction in margins.

So far there is little macro evidence to support this phenomenon. The producer price data is providing only the first signs that this is happening but anecdotal evidence from the retail, housing and financial sectors does support the proposition.

But there are still many equity analysts within our own organization who are reporting companies adopting a "cost-plus" approach to pricing for the year ahead, which does not allow for profitability to be squeezed.

My own view is that the degree of competition within the economy is now greater than for many years. The deregulated environment and entry of Continental competitors intent on making an impact on the purchasing policies of British customers are a powerful combination which will bring down inflation far quicker and by far more than is believed at present.

An inflation rate back below 4 per cent during 1990 is quite possible, I believe. But after the shocks of recent years the market will want to see definite signs that the profit margins are being cut.

To this end the producer price series and labour market statistics may prove more relevant influences on inflationary expectations over the coming months than the monetary variables.

Michael Hughes

Barclays de Zotte Wedd

BMP succumbs to the colour of money

It never ceases to amaze how company chairmen, one minute fighting ferociously for independence, can so easily be seduced by the colour of money.

Last week saw Mr David Ogilvy, chairman of Ogilvy, eat his infamous description of WPP's Mr Martin Sorrell as an "odious little jerk" when he readily added to his own personal fortune by accepting the latter's \$54 a share offer.

On Friday, it was Mr Martin Boase's turn to greet the advances of Omnicom as "those of an old girlfriend," after weeks of publicly abusing the Napoleonic ambitions of BDDP, the private French agency.

He, too, will have added

considerably to his bank balance if the deal goes through.

BMP prefers Omnicom because of its strong European network and a substantial client list that includes Porsche, Suchard and Lacoste.

A strong balance sheet and autonomy for BMP in London are equally attractive.

Few could argue. On all fronts the Omnicom deal is financially and strategically sounder.

The 365p price, including the 10p dividend, puts BMP on an historic multiple of 14.4 times — a decent cushion above the 13.7 offered by BDDP, but still far below the 24 times WPP paid for Ogilvy, which BMP tried to use as a

barometer. But what really rankles is the way BMP appeared to turn so quickly against BDDP.

They had acknowledged the commercial logic of a European link-up, had many clients in common and could have established a significant Anglo-French grouping.

BMP should have been big enough to admit there were sound reasons for merging, and brave enough to say the price was not right.

Omnicom had world billings last year of \$6.3 billion (\$2.9 billion) with a pre-tax income of \$77.6 million. With offices in just about every European capital, Omnicom's network obviously provides BMP with the links it needs. Assuming

the offer goes through, Mr Boase and Mr Peter Jones, chief executive, will run the London agency, which will be merged with DDB Needham to form a new agency called BMP DDB Needham, operating as a subsidiary of Omnicom.

There could be a clash of interest over clients — Omnicom handles Volkswagens in the US while BMP has BMW — but both believe the loss will be no more than about 6 per cent of total billings.

Omnicom has more than 15 per cent of the shares after its buying spree on Friday, and 9 per cent accepted by directors. BDDP has proved a tenacious bidder but is unlikely to want to stretch itself further.

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		5E
		5F
4.10-4.50	How To Choose FULLe Course. The Interview - Not An Obstacle But An Opportunity. Higher Education For People With Disabilities.	6D
		6E
		6F

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10.30-11.10	How To Choose Your University, Polytechnic Or College. Self Selection And Self Analysis For The Job Hunt.	1G
		1H
		1I
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		2H
		2I
1.10-1.50	The Interview - Not An Obstacle But An Opportunity. Opportunities In Construction Management.	3G
		3H
		3I
2.10-2.50	The Royal Airforce - Opportunities For Commissioning. How To Improve Your Chances Of Getting A University Place. Women In The Construction Professions.	4G
		4H
		4I

Changes planned for water sale to reduce profits risk

By Graham Seargeant, Financial Editor

The Department of the Environment is working on a series of changes to its water sell-off plans to reduce the profit risks to privatized water authorities and avoid unacceptable increases in water and sewerage prices in advance.

Calculations of the increases needed to pay for investment, as well as sufficient dividends to make privatized water shares attractive, have been much higher than expected.

The Government is understood to be anxious to keep the K factor, which regulates how far prices rise above the rate of inflation, down to an average of about 5 per cent for the authorities. Even that would probably produce double-figure price increases in 1990 and 1991. The corresponding Ks for water companies would still be 10 per cent or more.

But early calculations have suggested much higher figures for one or two authorities and,

particularly, for many of the statutory companies.

In keep pre-determined price rises down, some heavy costs are now likely to be left out of the K factors and passed straight on to customers (on top of the regulated price increases) announced before privatization in November.

This pass-through mechanism was intended to cover unknown future costs, such as metering, plus those from improvements in drinking water or sewage outflow standards imposed after the regulated prices were set. But it is now thought that some or all of the costs of meeting existing European Community standards, such as the level of nitrates in water, acceptable levels of pesticide residues and sewage sea outfalls needed to clean up beaches, may be also be passed straight through to the consumer on the grounds that the precise cost may not yet be known.

Proposals by the National

Rivers Authority to tighten up monitoring of outflows from sewage works to rivers would also be treated as a change in standards, and extra costs passed to consumers. This may lead to the proposals being shelved.

The DoE's other strategy, to limit future price increases through a privatization "claw" from taxpayers, is also running into problems. A simple plan to write off most of the water authorities' £5 billion debt, rather than redistribute it, would lead to further price distortion between customers of the privatized authorities and the quarter of households buying water from the statutory companies, which would draw no benefit from the write-offs.

The Treasury is likely to resist the alternative of grants towards capital investment, because these would count as public spending.

Thinking is now moving towards a government guar-

antee on loans needed to fund more than £2 billion annual capital spending. This could reduce the interest rate by between one and two points.

Such a scheme might be operated through a private sector fund but would have to be backed by assurances from the director-general of water services that prices in customers would be adjusted to prevent any default.

These calculations will be far more difficult if the House of Lords vote on the Water Bill (to bring forward compliance to EC standards from 1995 to 1993) is included in the final act. This has not been taken into account in calculating provisional Ks, scheduled for July.

The timetable has already slipped back by several weeks, but the DoE and Deloitte, its accounting adviser, hope to keep the authorities on schedule. The statutory companies may have to wait until after the September 1 vesting day.

N Sea projects face new hold-up

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Designs for several North Sea projects, already delayed until recommendations on new safety rules are issued by the public inquiry into the Piper Alpha disaster, face further postponement.

It is understood that the inquiry, being conducted in Aberdeen by Lord Cullen, may not end until early next year.

The Government had hoped it would end by late August but the weight of evidence indicates it will be next spring before Lord Cullen issues his final recommendations.

They are expected to include recommendations on fundamental changes in offshore platform designs and on offshore working practices.

The inquiry is being held in the Aberdeen Conference Centre, which is scheduled to be the venue of Offshore Europe, the industry's bi-annual exhibition and conference. It had originally been hoped the inquiry would end late in August in time for the exhibition to be assembled.

Arrangements have been made for the inquiry to adjourn for September to allow the exhibition to go ahead.

Occidental, the operator of the ill-fated Piper Alpha platform, is the first to be affected by the delays. It wants to build a new platform for the field, but must wait for the final safety recommendations before commissioning any detailed design work.

Several other companies have smaller projects waiting to move from the drawing board, but they too are having to wait until the final report.

Most companies are anticipating the design changes they expect to be ordered by Lord Cullen - Piper Alpha was a first-generation North Sea platform and most developments in the 1980s are already technically more advanced - but his recommendations on crew changes and how they should be accommodated could enforce design changes.

In the Norwegian sector of the North Sea, the latest proposals for developing the Troll gas field by Shell include flying personnel back to land at the end of their shifts and moving more of the gas-handling systems to land.

In the past it has been more economic to process gas offshore but the costs of keeping staff on offshore installations has made engineers review the economics of such projects.

ECONOMIC VIEW Let consumers pick a single Euro-currency

As the row over the Delors report on economic and monetary union develops, the gulf in economic thinking between the corporatist Euro-visionaries in Brussels - whose culture is primarily Latin - and the liberal economic approach of the Anglo-Saxon countries, becomes more and more apparent.

As Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, put it in his speech at Chatham House, re-issued at the end of last week as a Conservative Political Centre pamphlet: "A single market offers an historic opportunity for Europe and thus for Britain and is a decisive step towards the more liberal Europe which this Government hopes to build... The search for full economic and monetary union is a damaging diversion for the Community at a time when there is still so much to do to complete the single market programme."

Nowhere is the gap between the Delors view of things and the free market approach more apparent than in the issue of the European central bank, which is a central feature of the proposals for economic and monetary union.

A recent paper by Professor Geoffrey Wood of the City University Business School underlines the philosophical divergence by developing the free market approach towards its logical conclusion.

The single market can certainly benefit Europe's consumers, says Professor Wood, but the benefits do not depend on the imposition of a common currency. Stable money will not be achieved by creating a new central bank, but by letting existing central banks compete.

In a sense, central banks are already competing in the foreign exchange market. A bank that inflates its currency will see the currency's foreign exchange value fall. Membership of the exchange rate mechanism of the European Monetary System is a formalization of this competition in which the penalty for losing is devaluation.

This is why Mr Lawson wants to join, and is, no doubt, why he takes care to restate in the foreword to his pamphlet the Government's formal position that Britain will indeed join "when the time is right."

But competition can be carried further. Several economists, including, most notably, the Nobel prize winner Friedrich Hayek, have argued for the "denationalization" of money under which private banks would be allowed to issue competing currency. A system of this kind worked well in Scotland, given the important obligation on the issuing banks to redeem their notes either for the notes of other banks or for gold. (Today's Scottish notes are not independent currency but are backed one for one by the Bank of England.)

If this sounds too radical in contemplation, the possibility of competing national currencies requires a much smaller imaginative leap. Again there are existing working models for such a system.

Along the US/Mexican border and the US/Canadian border both local currencies are in use for everyday transactions.

In practice, national currencies would probably retain an effective monopoly of small-scale purchases, but for larger deals sellers could require payment in the more stable currencies.

All that is required to allow such a system to develop is to make any EC currency legal tender in any other EC country. This would be entirely in keeping with the spirit of 1992 and would be a logical development of the abolition of exchange controls and the free movement of capital.

Central banks would have a strong incentive to maximize the circulation of their currency - not for the kudos but for the seigniorage.

Sadly, there are several reasons why Europe's politicians are likely to be wary of offering the benefits of competing currencies to the consumers they represent. The reasons are not dissimilar to those which chafe them under other disciplines, such as the EMS.

Abandoning the monopoly of currency issue would divest governments of the market power they currently enjoy. If the French government sometimes finds the Bundesbank's policies uncomfortably rigorous at one remove through the exchange rate, it is not likely to leap for joy at the idea of letting the mark across the Maginot Line.

One of the reasons it likes the idea of a European Central Bank is that it might find a quorum to restrain the Germans.

The British may be equally wary of "currency internationalization." A degree of "sovereignty" would be given up, but only in the sense that the monopolist is forced to give up sovereignty when competitors are allowed into his market.

Ultimately, one might end up with a single European currency, but if that happened it would only be because people preferred it in all others, not because it had been imposed by governments. So long as the possibility of competing national currencies remained, there would be a strong incentive to the issuers of the new "Euro-currency" to ensure that it maintained its value.

The idea is a logical development of the "more liberal Europe" that the Government is seeking.

And it has the advantage of being a positive counter-proposal rather than merely the negative rejection of the Delors plan.

Rodney Lord
Economics Editor

Sorrell to float WPP on the Continent

By Our City Staff

One outcome of Mr Martin Sorrell's success in winning control of Ogilvy Group for his WPP Group is to bring on board a whole raft of European institutional shareholders in the merged group.

The convertible preference issue, arranged by the London brokers Barclays de Zoete World and Fawcett Gordon and which funded much of the \$864 million (£540 million) takeover, was placed with about 250 institutions, 30 of them from the Continent, predominantly the Netherlands, France and West Germany.

WPP is therefore considering an eventual listing in perhaps Paris and Frankfurt. By the end of this year, it will graduate in the US from its Nasdaq status to a full listing on the New York Stock Exchange, thus following in the footsteps of its only bigger rival in the international advertising business, Saatchi & Saatchi.

Meanwhile Mr Mike Luckwell, the former managing director of the Carlton Communications TV services group who sold out of Carlton for £25 million in 1986, is shortly expected to announce that his own holding in WPP has grown from 3 per cent to about 5 per cent. He and Mr Sorrell are friends and his stake is regarded as sympathetic.

Mr Luckwell's holding, worth about £13 million at WPP's Friday's closing price of 647p, is therefore now more than twice the size of Mr Sorrell's personal holding of less than 1 million shares.

WPP has unveiled the value it intends to put on the trading names of its two best-known subsidiaries, the advertising agency J Walker Thompson and the public relations group Hill & Knowlton. They will be taken on the balance sheet as intangible assets valued at £175 million, so giving WPP a positive net worth.

Global target for Exel

JAMES MORGAN



Exel aims in excel: Robbie Burns seeks market leadership in the US within three years

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

NFC, the transport and distribution group, is embarking on a rationalization of its distribution brands. Exel Logistics, a new corporate identity, is launched today with the aim of becoming a global brand.

Mr Robbie Burns, the divisional managing director, said: "We are already market leader in the United Kingdom and plan to be a world player by the end of the next decade." It already has a strong presence in the United States and, with a new acquisition on the

cards there, Exel aims to be market leader in the US within three years.

Mr Burns's division is moving into Europe but he is cautious about Exel's development there because it will mainly depend on the progress in creating a single market. He said: "There is about Europe at the moment an element of all hype but no action. But by the end of the 1990s it will all be happening."

Exel with its silver, blue and red livery will include opera-

tions such as NFC contract distribution, National Carriers, Danphys, Alpine and Tempo Union, although these names will still be featured beneath the new logo.

The NFC distribution arm has been one of the leaders in developing composite warehouse systems - Tesco being one of its latest clients - which take over responsibility for goods from the manufacturer's gate to the supermarket shelves, achieving a just-in-time service.

Walker builds in France

By Martin Waller

In the late 1950s Mr George Walker, head of Brent Walker, the leisure group, took his family on holiday to Le Touquet, to a little country hotel a few miles out of town and close to the beaches.

By 1994, Mr Walker's group will be the largest single employer in the town on the north French coast, on completion of a 1,500-acre holiday development which includes the same hotel, Le Manoir. Building work on the first of 1,000 holiday homes started last week.

In 1985, as he was arranging the purchase of the Brighton marina on behalf of Brent

Walker, he learned that the hotel and surrounding land were up for sale, with a laundry business in the town, for £4.6 million.

"It was before the Channel tunnel, and the gamble was the tunnel going to happen? I sincerely believed it was, so I bought the 1,500 acres as well with planning permission for housing," he says.

He then added on a nearby casino "for pennies," or £200,000 to be precise. In the past two-and-a-half years, as plans to build the tunnel have become a reality, the land has risen in price by six times.

The builder of the holiday

homes among the dunes, the Irish contractor Declan Kelly, receives 5 per cent of the cost of development and Brent Walker's 20 per cent, giving it at today's prices a £30 million-£40 million capital profit.

This will more than fund the £12 million cost of developing the other facilities on site. The finished scheme should make £4 million-£5 million a year in operating profits for Brent Walker.

Mr Walker expects about 60 per cent of new houseowners to be British. "When I spoke to the local mayor, he said 'I want to get those rich English here'," he added.

Raising a glass to Krug's kin

Krug, king of champagne houses, may now be more than 60 per cent owned by Remy Martin, but it is still run as a family business, with brothers Henri, aged 52, and Remy, aged 47, at the helm and holding 30 per cent between them. They are the fifth generation of the family - the business in Reims was founded by their great-grandfather, Johann-Joseph Krug, a West German accountant, in 1843. Father-of-five Henri, whose wife teaches mathematics and physics at a local school, supervises the blending of the wines which create the champagne. Krug Grande Cuvée, his pride and joy, is a mixture of between 40 and 50 vintage and non-vintage wines. "Krugers," as he calls his devotees, "are people who know what they want. And they know what they want from Krug. We want to make sure that they get a similar experience each time they open a bottle," he says. Remy, meanwhile, travels the world - New York yesterday, Tokyo tomorrow - marketing the product. But the champagne that the brothers were raised on was vintage Krug 1928. They were given it, from an early age, whenever they lunched with their grandfather. Described by some experts as the greatest champagne ever, Joseph Krug II, had a cellar full of Krug 1928 - thanks to the ignorance of English wine merchants. For vast stocks of pre-paid - by the English - reserves had

THE TIMES REIMS DIARY

Tickle is good for you

The size of those little bubbles - the smaller the better - is a great talking point in the Champagne region of France. They not only debate their relative sizes, but also their "aggressiveness," and at Krug they pride themselves on having among the smallest in the business. "The sign of a cheap champagne is bubbles like

Perrier water," says Katherine Seydoux, a cousin of the Krugs. "Krug bubbles are not coarse. They are very fine. But they are not too aggressive. They tickle the back of your throat but they do not make you sneeze." They also debate the colour: "Krug is the colour of gold, other champagnes are the colour of straw."

Cher Rosé

Krug Rosé, which was only introduced to the marketplace six years ago - and is paler than other pink champagnes - already accounts for 5 per cent of Krug's sales. It has been specifically designed by Henri Krug to accompany such dishes as lamb, lobster or raspberries. If you have yet to sample it, perhaps the time has come to visit Nico Ladenis' latest establishment, Chez Nico, in Great Portland Street, which opened this month. His other restaurant, Simply Nico, in Rochester Row, will continue to be run by him, but as a bistro. For Ladenis, one of the great chefs of our time, is offering Krug Rosé on his wine list at about £53 a bottle. Anyone who flinches at that price ought to be aware that it is indeed a bargain, compared with the £120 being charged at Tante Claire, the restaurant in Royal Hospital Road, Chelsea, for the self-same bottle.

Standing test of time

If you invest in wine and want to add champagne to your portfolio, then, according to Remy Krug, your choice is limited to either Vintage, Bollinger, or Krug. "All other champagnes," he says, "are designed to be good for selling after three years, and have a shelf life of 223 years." What sets all of Krug's production apart, he says, is that their initial fermentation takes place in small oak barrels, instead of stainless steel. "When you give birth to a wine in an oak barrel," says Remy, "it makes it completely different. It is in do with a chemical reaction and it means that the wines last much longer." Unlike most champagnes, no Krug is released onto the market until it is at least seven years old. The 1988 Krug, bottled last week, will not be available until 1995 and production of Krug is strictly limited. Of the 230 million bottles of champagne sold annually around the world, only 500,000 of them are Krug - with just 50,000 bottles of Krug finding their way to Britain, traditionally the biggest export market for champagne. A record for Krug was set at an auction in Bordeaux last year, when an Australian wine merchant paid more than £1,000 for two magnums - one of Krug 1969 and the other of 1973.

Since the reign of King George V, Krug has been a favourite with the Royal Family. Indeed, the Krug family has held the Royal warrant for three generations.

Carol Leonard

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TWO YEARS A FIRST STEP

LIVERPOOL

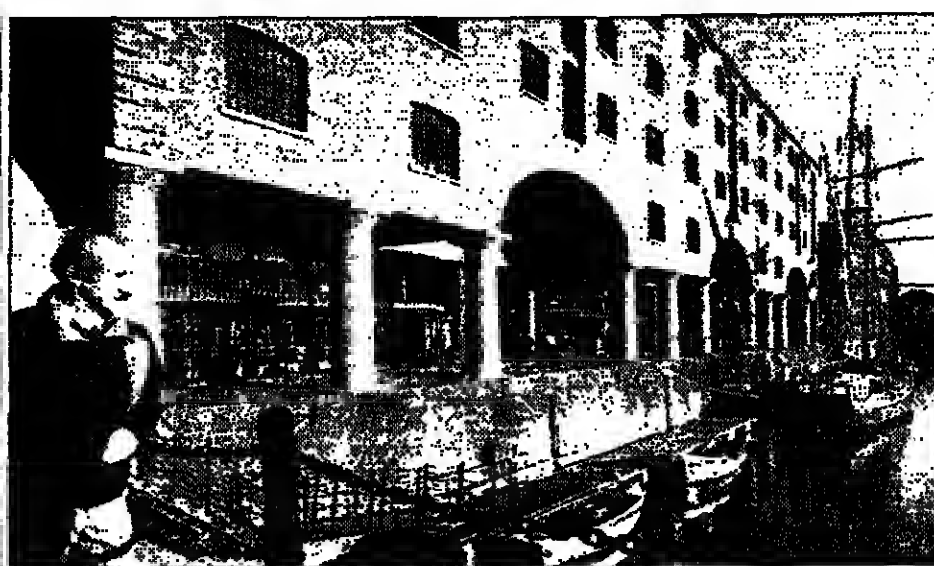
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A SPECIAL REPORT
By Peter Davenport

Panorama of growing prosperity



Liverpool's famous waterfront, dominated by the twin-towered Liver Building, is changing fast. The Royal Seaforth Dock and Duty Free area are expanding, and the Royal Albert Dock conversion with its multi-attractions lures millions of tourists a year



I must sometimes seem, to those who believe in such things, that just when Liverpool raises its spirits and begins to gain renewed hope and confidence in its future, fate is waiting around the corner to cruelly cut short such optimism.

When the Prime Minister went to the city for the first time in several years to praise the work being done to generate new employment, a local factory announced it was closing with the loss of 1,000 jobs. Then there was the tragedy of Hillsborough, when 95 fans of the hugely successful Liverpool football team died in a crush on the Sheffield terraces during the FA Cup semi-final against Nottingham Forest. Such blows would seem enough to dent the most buoyant of spirits, to destroy the most optimistic of individuals.

These are not the first, only the latest, in a series of seemingly relentless depressions, as the city has struggled to carve out a more secure and prosperous future for its people. The riots of Toxteth, the coverings of the then Militant-dominated council, jobs losses, factory closures and the shame of Heyesal, all commanded the wrong sort of headlines.

And yet there has emerged in Liverpool and the wider Merseyside area a renewed spirit, a resurgence of business, commercial and industrial confidence that the city and the region can once again take the place it believes it richly deserves in the national economy.

Industries have invested heavily in new technology to face the challenges of the future — including the opportunities offered by the removal of trade barriers.

in Europe with the introduction of the Single European Market in 1992. Part of the reason for that new confidence is a vast improvement in industrial relations between management and workers, even in traditionally highly unionized industries, with many companies adopting a more democratic, open relationship with their labour force for the common good.

There has been massive large government investment, too, through the local development corporation and task force which has transformed the old docklands into a showpiece of the new Liverpool. The current Labour council is more moderate than its predecessor and has adopted a more pragmatic approach, both to central government and the private sector, to stimulate investment and growth.

Government investment has transformed the old docks into a showpiece of the new Liverpool

David Trippier, parliamentary under secretary of state at the Department of the Environment, with special responsibility for the inner cities, says the growing spirit of partnership between central government, local authorities and the business sector in Liverpool and Merseyside is particularly impressive.

Over recent years Liverpool and the Prime Minister have hardly endeared themselves to each other. Yet writing in a current issue of a local business publication, Mrs Thatcher says: "It is

As Liverpool toasts its Cup Final victory, it is also celebrating an economic turnaround which will enable the city to enter the 1990s with its confidence restored

particularly heartening to see that the run-down industrial and commercial scene of 1981 has now become a thriving business community consistently building on its own successes. There are real commercial opportunities on Merseyside now. Companies are producing at record levels with excellent profits showing just what can be done by hard work and enterprise.

"Quite apart from the good economic arguments in favour of industrial development in Merseyside, it is once again a good place to live and work... There is still much work to be done," Mrs Thatcher added, "but I am confident that firm foundations have now been laid for a recovery which will continue into the 1990s."

The city of Liverpool, the largest of the five Merseyside districts with a population of 490,000, based its traditional wealth on its position as a centre for maritime trading and financial services. Liverpool is still the headquarters of some of the world's great trading companies, and the waterfront continues to play a big role part in its fortunes.

The Mersey Docks and Harbour Company, which owns and manages the port — including the successful Liverpool Freeport, the largest in the UK, which

has already handled more than £200 million of cargo from 80 countries — is profitable and ambitious. The Merseyside Development Corporation is set to repeat its undoubted success around the Albert Dock scheme, which attracted 2.8 million visitors last year and is seen as a symbol of the city's renaissance, with a multi-million programme to transform a further 1,600 acres of waterfront in Liverpool, Birkenhead and New Brighton. Development plans costing £400 million have also been announced for the city's North Docks, including a £300 million venture by P&O and the Mersey Docks and Harbour Company, which will create around 6,000 new jobs.

New companies have been attracted to Liverpool. The creation of the Wavertree Technology Park has been an outstanding success and a symbol of the city's determination to move with the industrial times. In 1983 it was 64 acres of depressing inner-city dereliction, a redundant railway yard that seemed to sum up all of Liverpool's ills. Today there are almost 40 companies sited in the landscaped environment of the park and the original intention to create 2,000 new jobs by 1995 will be achieved years ahead of schedule. That park has proved so successful it is to be extended.

As well as the new companies attracted to the city, Liverpool and Merseyside have long been home to many big commercial and industrial names. Many of them have been investing heavily, a sure sign of a returning business confidence in the region. Among them are GEC Plessey Telecommunications, Unilever, Eli Lilly, Pilkington Glass, Ford (which has invested more than £400 million locally since 1982 and plans to invest a further £600 million over the next four years), General Motors, with 10,000 employees locally, the Littlewoods Organization (not just a football pools but an international organization with a £2 billion turnover and one of Europe's largest private companies). Others include Shell UK, Nabisco, Beechams, United Glass, Metal Box. Maintaining the maritime connection

The original intention to create 2,000 new jobs by 1995 will be achieved ahead of schedule

is Ocean Transport and Trading, one of the region's biggest employers with more than a dozen companies operating locally. The company, which handles international freight-forwarding, shipping, distribution and handling, has its headquarters in the historic India Buildings in the city.

Insurance, banking and retail services are all well represented. The Royal Insurance, one of the world's largest insurance groups, employs more than 4,000 people in Merseyside, where the

business began in 1845, and has its head office on the Liverpool waterfront. Barclaycard, already with an operation in Kirkby, has just invested £7 million and created 600 new jobs at the Wavertree Technology Park with a retail services data processing operation.

According to the Business Opportunities organization on Merseyside (BOOM), Merseyside-quoted companies have increased their pre-tax profits by 49.7 per cent in the past 12 months.

A breakdown of employment figures for Merseyside, including Liverpool, shows that the largest number of jobs is in professional services at 100,200, followed by other service sectors (68,000), distribution (74,000), government (39,500), food (33,500), construction (30,000), transport (45,600), banking and insurance (29,400), chemicals (12,000), electrical and mechanical engineering (30,700), vehicle manufacture (15,400), metal goods (9,000), printing (10,300) and glass (9,400).

The city is well served by motorway connections enabling fast north-south, east-west travel; it has its own airport, with a terminal which is just three years old, and it is only 45 minutes from Manchester International Airport. British Rail Pullman services link Liverpool with London in two and a half hours.

It also remains a busy shopping centre, with a catchment area stretching from north Wales to north Cheshire and throughout south-west Lancashire. As well as the wide range of existing stores in the city centre, which is largely traffic-free, there are several plans for new shopping developments in towns throughout the area.

It is entirely appropriate that the initial letters of the organization formed to stimulate increased commercial and industrial activity in Liverpool and Merseyside, should form the word so beloved by headline writers in tabloid newspapers to describe periods of economic growth.

Business Opportunities On Merseyside (BOOM), is a joint initiative by the Liverpool Society of Chartered Accountants and the government's Merseyside Task Force, formed with the aim of encouraging a wider appreciation of all that the city and region had to offer to assist in its regeneration.

It is now supported by more than 120 organizations in the public and private sectors and is acknowledged to have played a valuable role in

Boom from gloom

How Merseyside turned optimism to realism and won the confidence of industry and new investment

creating a new air of business and commercial confidence in the area.

The driving force behind the organization is Geoffrey Piper, the chairman of its board, and the head of the Liverpool office of the accountancy firm, Deloitte, Haskins and Scels.

"When we started, it was one per cent perspiration, one per cent inspiration and 98 per cent desperation," he says. "Then, after a year, other

people began to share our optimism. Now it is no longer optimism but realism. The future looks so much brighter than in did only a year ago."

Piper says that the organization set out with a three-phased programme. The first two, to stem the tide of companies moving out of Liverpool and Merseyside and the re-building of business confidence in those remaining, have been achieved.

The third is to attract

substantial inward investment and that is now beginning to happen. The property scene, both residentially and commercially, is proving attractive to developers anxious to find a stake in the city and there is, he says, massive investment by companies.

"We are now seeing the concrete results of the increased confidence we have been striving for. We are seeing massive increased investments by companies

which until now just didn't have the confidence in the future of the area. There are concrete examples of people putting their money where their mouth is."

As part of the drive to sell the attractions of Liverpool and Merseyside, BOOM has taken leaders of industry and commerce to the city to show them the truth behind some of the more lurid headlines. It has also taken its wares to the heart of the City in London with a presentation and conference in the Barbican.

Piper remains a realist though. He says there is still much work to be done and it is essential that the new moderate regime in the city council maintains the new era of confidence it has created.

'No more begging bowls'

Among those who believe that Liverpool is in for better times is Keva Coombs, the leader of the Labour-controlled city council. "The worst is undoubtedly over. We can still be blown off course by national events of course but I am convinced that we have more reason to be optimistic now than for many years," he says.

"The days when the council was seen as an obstacle by the private sector have gone and, although it took some time and a lot of hard work to convince people of that, they are convinced now."

Coombs said that there was also now a more pragmatic approach to working together



Looking ahead: Keva Coombs, the leader of the city council between the council and central government agencies. There were hopes of persuading some major government departments to relocate to the city. "We would like to see a government department set up in the city but the days are

gone when we adopted a begging bowl attitude, saying that we deserved it. "Now it's more a case of what we can do for them: its not so much Liverpool needing civil servants, but the Civil Service needing Liverpool."

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BOOM

It's happening on Merseyside.

Merseyside's docklands could become the most exciting in Europe

A transformation on the waterfront

The transformation of Albert Dock on Liverpool's waterfront is the biggest and one of the most difficult urban renewal projects ever undertaken. It has won a cluster of national and international awards, attracted millions of tourists, and satisfied those who saw the project through against early cynics that it has played an important part in the revitalization of the city.

Dramatic though the change was, the scale of change now in hand for further massive areas of Liverpool's docklands, on both banks of the Mersey, may dwarf even that achievement.

Those behind the programme, both the public-sector Merseyside Development Corporation and a host of private developers, say that the changes, in a city blessed with more listed buildings than any other in Britain outside London, will give Liverpool the most exciting waterfront in Europe.

When the development corporation was set up in 1981, the task it faced of regenerating 860 acres containing some of the worst dereliction in the country was daunting. It was a waterfront with jobs for fewer than 1,500 people, who worked mainly in a collection of aged

sheds and warehouses. Its social facilities comprised one public toilet and two telephone boxes, often vandalized and out of use.

The infrastructure problems were enormous, according to Trevor Cornfoot, the assistant to the corporation's chief executive, Dr John Ritchie.

So far, £170 million of government money and £44 million from private investors has gone into the Albert Dock development. The scheme includes £15 million of behind-the-scenes building services and engineering design by a Cheshire company, Oscar Faber and Co.

But those bold figures mask the size of the operation to reclaim the area and bring the vast collection of Grade I listed warehouses up to a condition where they could be transformed into the successful enterprise it is today with shops, restaurants, the Tate Gallery, Merseyside Maritime Museum and the stylish home of Granada Television's news centre. About half the money spent has gone on underground reclamation work unseen by the public.

For each acre of land bought by the MDC for £6,000, £100,000 was spent on restoring it to a condition where it was worth £40,000 on the market.

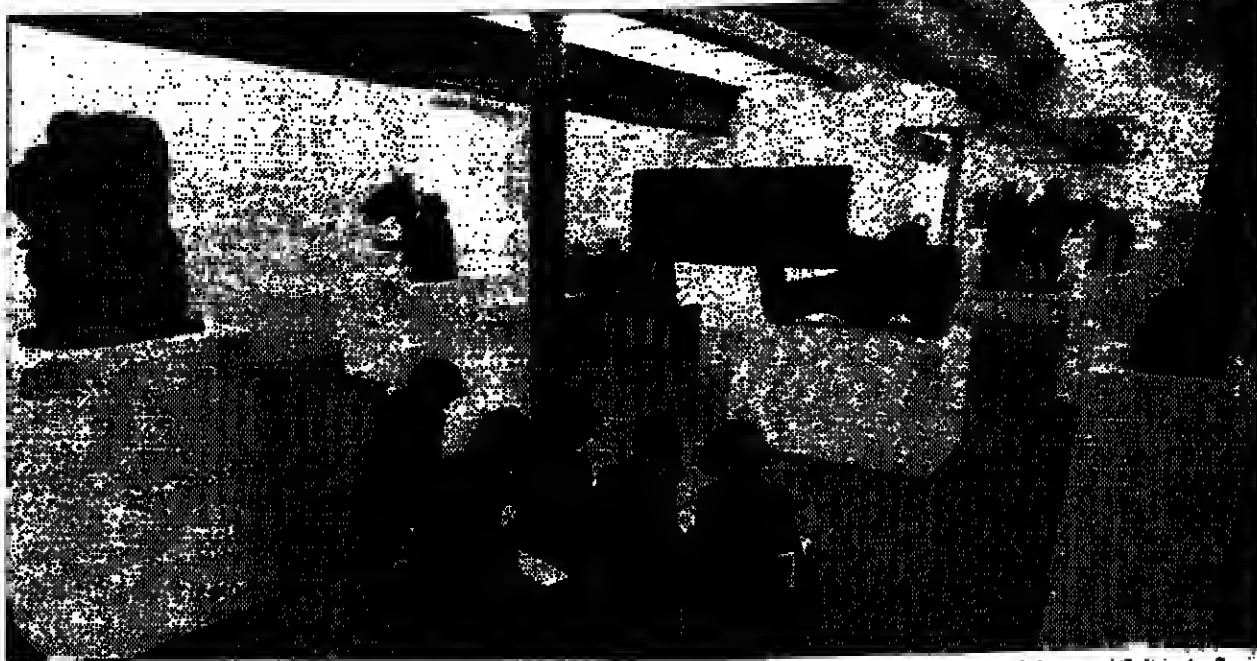
Attracting private investment was at first difficult. But now companies are rushing to submit development plans.

The original area of operation of the MDC has been almost tripled with the addition of a further 1,600 acres taking in large tracts of Liverpool, New Brighton and Birkenhead.

Cornfoot says: "There is no fixed timescale for completion of work in our extended area but we are looking at a period of around eight years. We have suggested to the Government that there will have to be around £120 million of public funding and that we expect this will lever in more than £200 million from the private sector."

"There is tremendous interest from developers and we may end up operating as a grant-giving authority, as the private firms are now so willing to join in. The developers also see a substantial market for housing along the waterfront."

The attraction of living on the waterfront is evidenced by the demand for property in the Albert Dock development. Within 24 hours of the show flats in the Colonnades being opened, the entire first phase of 24 units had been sold. Prices ranged between £55,000 and



Drawing interest: Liverpool's Tate Gallery in the converted Royal Albert Dock has brought new visitors to the waterfront

£110,000, and the waiting list for the first 100 apartments grew so big that it had to be closed.

A number of penthouse suites, where the buyers can have the interiors designed to their requirements, are expected to become available shortly at prices reported to be in the region of £250,000 plus.

In the South Docks, preliminary site work has begun on a £4-million housing scheme to provide the first rented accommodation in the area and, further along, Barratt, the developer, has reached agreement with the MDC for a £10-million programme to build 180 homes on 48 acres of the former Liverpool Garden Festival site.

It is hoped that large scale redevelopment of a major site on Wirral water-

front, between Wallasey and Birkenhead, will start before the end of this year. This summer, the MDC will study proposals for the 80-acre site from three development consortia.

Attention has now fallen on Liverpool's northern docks, much of which falls within the MDC's newly expanded area, where three schemes have been announced. The Mersey Docks and Harbour Company and P&O Properties are to redevelop the Princes Dock with a £300-million scheme of offices, shops, houses and a 150-bedroom hotel.

Barratt has been awarded the £25 million contract to create a dockside village at the Waterloo warehouse. The joint venture with the docks and harbour company will create 300 luxury apartments, priced from £55,000 to £130,000.

There is also a £70-million scheme to build 300 homes, a large hotel, marina, conference and heritage centres, plus 185,000 sq ft of office accommodation, on the Stanley, Collingwood and Salisbury Docks. The scheme, which will take between three and five years to implement, will be known as Hartley Quays.

The desire for waterfront living in the new look Liverpool is not just fired by imaginative housing developments but also by the knowledge that a massive campaign to clean up the Mersey basin is in hand.

The Mersey estuary is reckoned to be the most polluted in Britain and a £4-billion, 25-year campaign to clean its waters is backed by central and local government as well as the EC in Brussels.

The 'appalling eyesore' that found industrial success as the Wavertree Technology Park

In his book, *Where There's a Will*, Michael Heseltine, the former Environment Secretary, described the moment he first saw the inner-city dereliction that had been suggested as the site for a modern technology park to create jobs and a new image for Liverpool.

"It was an appalling eyesore — mainly railway yards which had hardly been used for a decade, a great sprawl of industrial wasteland. Planners and developers had repeatedly examined the possibility of salvaging the land but had given up in despair."

"It lay within two miles of the city's commercial centre, a silent but eloquent rebuke to a society where it was always someone else's responsibility. Nobody bothered. You drove through Liverpool; you looked at this terrible place and you drove on."

Today, any newcomer would be hard-pressed to match Heseltine's starchy accurate description of 64 acres of inner-city decay and dereliction with what it has become; the hugely successful Wavertree Technology Park.

Gone is the grim and dereliction; in its place an attractive business park, landscaped with 62,000 trees and 150,000 shrubs providing a pleasant working environment of low rise, modern offices and industrial units.

The site that once symbolized all that was wrong with Liverpool today epitomizes the new confidence of a city and its determination for a stake in a better future.

Almost 40 firms and their staff are supported by such on-



Reflections: Michael Hayes, the city planning officer, views the refurbishing work still to be done

Out of dereliction, business blossoms

site amenities as a health centre and dental surgery, bank and restaurant.

After seeing the site, Heseltine created a partnership between the public and private sectors, represented by Plessey, English Estates, Liverpool City Council and the now defunct Merseyside County Council. Sir John Clark, head of Plessey, became chairman of the Park company and he seconded senior personnel to oversee its development.

The original plans for the park were to create 2,000 new, quality jobs by 1995. At present there are 1,200 on site,

and this will increase to 1,600 next year.

Many of the firms now on the site are at the forefront of their particular fields of operation. The first to arrive was Plessey Crypto, the European market leader in the design and manufacture of secure communications equipment. It has recently developed from being exclusively a supplier to the military and defence customers to providing a wide range of equipment for business communications.

The company's neighbours, Powell and Schofield, have earned a good reputation at home and abroad in bio-

technology, particularly as the makers of specialized dietary products which are used throughout the world to treat nutrition-related illnesses. The company has doubled the size of its operation here.

Rytek Semiconductor is engaged in pioneering work which will help to realize the concept of ultra-thin television screens.

The latest major acquisition for the park was that of Barclaycard, which chose the site as a base for a major expansion of their activities in the area. A 100,000 sq ft centre for retail services data processing is already in opera-

tion, with provision for a further 50,000 sq ft building. Total staffing will be 800, of which 600 will be new jobs.

As well as attracting established companies, the park has provided the opportunity for start-ups by fledgling concerns. The first such company was Forwessun Systems, formed by three young engineers from Plessey. They now have a staff of 20 and a growing reputation in engineering and electronics. Their clients include Plessey, ICL, GEC, Sony and NEC. Specialist contracts have included work on the new generation of Nato fighter aircraft and the A230 Airbus.

Michael Hayes, Liverpool's city planning officer and a management board director of Wavertree Technology Park, says: "The whole thing has been an outstanding success. We can let everything we can build. The problem is, we simply can't build enough to meet the demand."

The site is 90 per cent developed already, though the original plans did not envisage completion before 1995.

Officials have also identified a site for a major expansion of the park. It is to the south of the present location in the derelict Rathbone Road Goods Yard, at present owned by British Rail. The intention is to provide 200,000 sq ft of floor space and create up to 1,000 new jobs.

Hayes says that the park is also seeking to establish links with Liverpool University, research institutions and business development organizations for technology transfer arrangements.

The Beatles bonus

Sami Rihani, chief executive of the Merseyside Tourism Board, has good reason to insist that his landing of the delights of Liverpool may be a little more sincere than most other people's.

A Lebanese, he came to study at Liverpool University 32 years ago and never felt the urge to leave. Before becoming Merseyside's "chief salesman" he worked in local government as a town planner. Now he presides over one of the fastest growing industries in the region.

Tourism now supports almost 14,000 jobs, with the 20 million visitors a year spending more than £200 million on goods and services. Last year, nearly three million people visited the revived Albert Dock alone.

Liverpool's potential to attract the tourist was first displayed five years ago with the International Garden Festival, which drew three million visitors. The city is also the home of the Maritime Museum, the Walker Art Gallery, which includes works from the Gothic to Pop Art and ranging through Rembrandt, Poussin, Stubbs, Turner and Hockney.

The Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra and the city's theatres — the Empire, Everyman and Playhouse — have international reputations. The quality of its writers, poets, musicians and artists has long been a source of genuine pride.

The association with The Beatles still draws half a million fans from around the

world each year, and then there are its famous sporting links with golf, football, and the Grand National. The two cathedrals, at either end of the appropriately named Hope Street, attract more than 350,000 visitors a year.

However the showpiece remains the Albert Dock development, Britain's largest urban renewal project. The

"It would be nice to think we could say that success has come as a result of our marketing skills, but in reality the area sells itself in many ways."

dock, the largest area of Grade I listed buildings in the United Kingdom, has been faithfully restored after years of neglect and now houses the Tate Gallery Liverpool, the Merseyside Maritime Museum, Granada Television's news centre and a wide array of shops, restaurants and leisure facilities.

Plans for the regeneration of the city's North Docks with announced schemes costing £400 million, is expected to attract more visitors.

Hotels that five years ago had a bed occupancy of only 35 per cent now have some of the highest figures in the North. Since it was formed in 1988, the Merseyside Conference

Bureau has distributed some 8,000 conference brochures and handled between 700 and 800 detailed inquiries.

Rihani sees his role as larger than simply attracting visitors. If the area is accepted as a tourist destination, he says, it will complement efforts to attract industrial and commercial development.

The importance of tourism in changing the perceptions of Liverpool and Merseyside is recognized by the five district councils in the area, who have decided to invest £500,000 a year for five years on an image-building project.

Rihani says that visitor numbers increased by 15 per cent in 1988, similar to the figure achieved the year before which officials had thought to be a one-off.

"Whatever we seem to do seems to be a success with people," Rihani says. "It would be nice to think that it was all as a result of our marketing skills, but in reality the area is selling itself in a multitude of ways."

"For instance, it was thought that the Tate Gallery, which celebrates its first anniversary in Liverpool this month, would do well to attract 500,000 visitors in the first year. In fact, 600,000 people poured through the doors in the first seven months."

In a recent survey by the North West Tourist Board, 90 per cent of tourism-linked businesses in Merseyside reported an increase in activity compared with a regional average of 73 per cent.

A POWERFUL REASON FOR SETTING UP IN LIVERPOOL

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Into the next century

Many of the leading companies in Liverpool and Merseyside have been investing heavily in new technology to keep them at the forefront of their markets into the next century. Although in some cases it has led to a slimming down in the numbers of workers, companies have emerged more competitive.

As well as attracting new names and encouraging new businesses, the area is home to companies that have established national and international reputations. The high level of commercial activity indicates the return of business confidence in the area.

Major American multi-nationals on Merseyside, such as Ford, General Motors and Eli Lilly, have been running investment programmes costing hundreds of millions of pounds for the past decade.

Ford has ploughed more than £400 million into its Halewood operation since 1982 in an investment programme which began with the re-tooling required for the introduction of the Orion and new Escort cars and vans. It has just announced a further investment programme over the next four years of £600 million, mainly for new equipment and technology to produce the next generation of Escorts.

GEC Plessey Telecommunications Ltd is continuing to develop its revolutionary System X public switching operation at its Liverpool premises. Over the past eight years the company has invested £75 million in technology to develop the system, including the installation of a robotic manufacturing line.

System X, an advanced telecommunications system, is now used by 15 administrations and is established in four continents with deliveries in excess of three million lines. Among orders secured in the past year are a further 900 System X exchanges for British Telecom worth £380 million, as well as the sale of systems to Kenya, Gibraltar,

some 10,000 on Merseyside and it, too, has invested heavily. The Vauxhall plant has a "robotized" body framing line at the Delco Electronics division in Kirby and produces a wide range of automotive components, 70 per cent for export.

Cannell Laird Shipbuilders, a member of the VSEL Consortium, has invested heavily in information technology for its new construction hall. It has recruited 800 extra workers in the past two years and now employs 2,000 people.

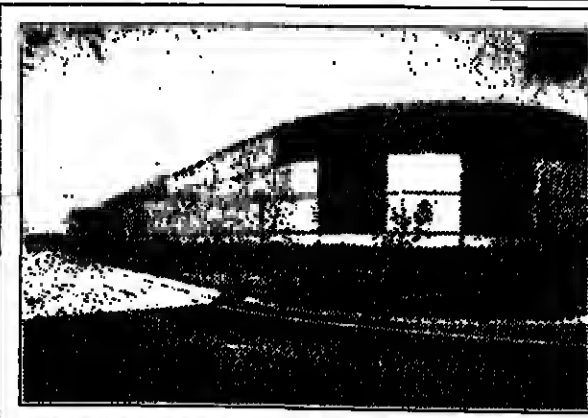
Pilkington plc has invested in a new £65 million float glass line and a £3.5 million glass plant at St Helens. Claxo completed a £6 million investment programme, coupled with new work techniques, at its plant at Speke in December last year, transforming the site into an advanced centre to make high quality pharmaceutical products.

A century after William Hesketh Lever built his factory and model village at Port Sunlight, the business which became Unilever is the world's largest manufacturer of consumer goods. Merseyside, with 5,500 workers, remains one of its largest manufacturing centres. More than £100 million has been spent in the last five years rebuilding and modernizing its factories there.

Despite the investment in new technology, company officials almost all attribute the performance of their firms to the quality of the local labour. In recent years, productivity gains have improved dramatically in highly unionized industries such as automotive, docks and shipbuilding.



Boost: Ford spent £400 million on Halewood



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Wavertree technology park
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- Learning Centre for Innovative Catalysts
- Interdisciplinary Research Centre in Surface Science
- Impact Research Centre
- Centre for Research in Primary Science and Technology
- Marine and Coastal Studies Unit
- Magnetic Resonance Research Centre
- Institute of Human Ageing

If you would like to know more about the services we provide and how they might benefit your company or organisation, please contact David Price, Research Support and Industrial Liaison Office, University of Liverpool, PO Box 147, Liverpool L69 3BX. Tel. 051-794 2079.

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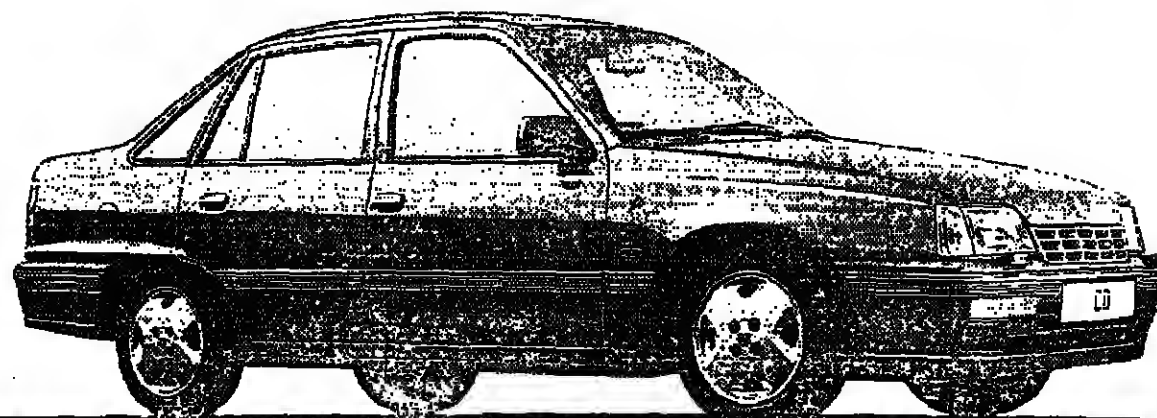
Production has increased again this year and with 200 extra production people on the strength, we're building 35 cars and vans an hour.

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University of London

APPOINTMENT OF PRINCIPAL

The College is to appoint a new Principal to take up office from 1st October 1990 in succession to Professor Dorothy Wedderburn.

The Principal is the chief academic and administrative officer of the College. The salary is negotiable but will be set at a level which recognises the importance of this post. The Principal is provided with a four bedroom detached house adjacent to the College's magnificent site on Egham Hill, Surrey. The post is open to both men and women and persons interested in being considered for this appointment, or wishing to suggest names, are invited to write in confidence, not later than 23rd June 1989, to The Lord Allen of Abbeydale GCB, Chairman of the Council, c/o Secretary and Registrar, Royal Holloway and Bedford New College, Egham Hill, EGHAM, Surrey, TW20 0EX. Further particulars are available from the Secretary and Registrar - telephone 0784 39000.

MONASH UNIVERSITY and OFFICE OF PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES, HEALTH DEPARTMENT VICTORIA Melbourne, Australia CHAIR OF FORENSIC PSYCHIATRY AND DIRECTOR OF FORENSIC PSYCHIATRY SERVICES

Applications are invited for appointment to the Foundation Chair of Forensic Psychiatry at Monash Park Hospital, a Psychiatric Hospital at which is situated the Centre for Forensic Psychiatry. The Professor will hold the position of Director of Forensic Psychiatry Services within the Health Department and will be responsible for the position. Responsibilities will include development of all State Forensic Psychiatry services at various locations including the Centre. In addition, as a Professor of the University, the appointee will be responsible to the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine for the conduct of education and research in forensic psychiatry.

A Chair of Forensic Medicine exists, held by Professor Stephen Connor, who is also Director of the Victorian Institute of Forensic Pathology.

Applicants should be medically qualified with specialist qualifications in psychiatry registrable in Victoria, and be able to provide leadership and direction in teaching and research activities in Forensic Psychiatry.

Salary: A\$74,573 per annum which includes a clinical loading of A\$11,176 per annum. A further salary augmentation will be negotiated to reflect the current appointment to the position of Director of Forensic Psychiatry Services. Superannuation, travel and removal allowance, and temporary housing assistance. There is limited right to private practice.

Information on application procedure and further particulars may be obtained from the Registrar, Monash University, Clayton, Victoria 3168, Australia, or from Appointments (36416), Association of Commonwealth Universities, 26 Gower Square, London WC1E 6BF.

Applications should reach the Registrar not later than 21 July 1989. Candidates are invited to make an appointment or to apply by post at any stage.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL CHAIR OF CLINICAL CHEMISTRY

Applications are invited for the newly-established Chair of Clinical Chemistry to be held in the University Department of Chemical Pathology in the Duncan Building of the Royal Liverpool Hospital.

The appointee will be responsible for chemical pathology services in the Royal Liverpool Hospital, the regional service in endocrine pathology, laboratory services at Sefton General Hospital and chemical pathology services at several other hospitals in the area. The appointee will hold an honorary consultant contract for six sessions.

The salary will be within the range approved for clinical professional salaries (currently up to £35,500 per annum).

Interested parties are invited to contact Professor J.M. Bowden, Deputy Faculty of Medicine: tel 051-709 0141, ext. 2743.

Applications, together with the names of three referees, should be received not later than 30th June 1989, by The Director of Staffing Services (AS), The University, P.O. Box 147, Liverpool, L69 3BX, from whom, further particulars may be obtained.

Quote Ref: RV/161/T. An equal opportunity employer

University of Edinburgh Faculty of Medicine Postgraduate Dean

Applications are invited from medically qualified candidates for the post of Postgraduate Dean in the Faculty of Medicine, which falls vacant on 1st October 1989.

The appointee will be expected to provide academic and professional leadership for the development of and research into postgraduate medical and dental education in south-east Scotland. In addition to his/her role as Postgraduate Dean, the appointee will be Director of the Edinburgh Postgraduate Board for Medicine and Secretary of the South-East Regional Committee for Postgraduate Medical Education. The post is full-time and attracts a salary in the range of £38,340 to £55,680.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Secretary to the University, Personnel Office, 63 South Bridge, Edinburgh EH1 1LS, with whom applications (18 copies), including the names and addresses of three referees, should be lodged not later than 1st July 1989. Overseas applicants need only supply one copy.

PLEASE QUOTE REFERENCE NO. 64/89

UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM LECTURESHIPS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF THEORETICAL MECHANICS

Applications are invited for two appointments as Lecturer in the Department of Theoretical Mechanics. Candidates should be qualified in a branch of physics or non-physical mathematics which has relevance to engineering, for example in solid mechanics, fluid mechanics, electronics, theory of operations, numerical analysis, statistics, control theory, non-linear systems or applied analysis.

The duties of the posts include the teaching of mathematics to honours degree level in the single honours degree course in Mathematics and Engineering and to honours degree students throughout the Faculty of Engineering. The posts are established and appointments will be effective from the beginning of the session 1989-90, or later by arrangement. The salary for the appointments (under review) will be within the range £26,800 - £39,510 p.a.

Information should be sent to Professor A.J.M. Squire at the Department of Theoretical Mechanics (Tel: 0522 49484, Ext. 2415).

Further particulars and forms of application, returnable not later than 12 June may be obtained from:

The Personnel Office
University of Nottingham
Nottingham, NG7 2RD
Tel: 0522 49445 ext 5555, Ext No.1259.

University of Exeter CHAIR OF PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY

Applications are invited for a Chair of Physical Chemistry in the Department of Chemistry which is available from 1 October 1989.

Applicants with a proven record of research achievement in any branch of physical chemistry will be considered.

Salary will be on the agreed Professorial range: minimum £23,380 p.a., average £28,820 p.a.

Further particulars available from the Personnel Office, University of Exeter, Exeter EX4 4JQ. Closing date for receipt of applications 23 June 1989.

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW LECTURESHIP OF CHINESE STUDIES

Applications are invited for a Lectureship in Chinese Studies within the Institute of Social and East Asian Studies. The post is available for three years from 1 September 1989.

Candidates should be proficient in spoken and written Chinese and should have a specialisation in the Chinese economy. The appointee will be required to lecture and research on the economy of China and to set up an economic advisory and consultancy service for local industry and business. It is hoped that the post will become self-funding.

Initial appointment will be from 1 September 1989, for a period of three years. The salary for the Lectureship will be in the range £26,800 - £39,510 p.a. on the Lectureship scale, with placement according to age, qualifications and experience.

Further particulars may be obtained from Academic Personnel, University of Glasgow, 112 BQ where applications (3 copies) giving the names and addresses of three referees, should be lodged on or before 12th June 1989. In reply please quote Ref. No. 65/89.

UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER Department of Engineering LECTURESHIP IN CONTROL ENGINEERING

Applications are invited for a Lectureship in the general field of Control Engineering.

The successful applicant will join an expanding research group in Control Systems Design headed by Professor Ian Foulds-Smith. The group has excellent computing facilities and is well funded by SERC and industry.

Initial salary, dependent on the qualifications and experience of the Lecturer appointed, will be within Grade A £29,200 to £34,500 or Grade B £25,105 to £29,510.

Further particulars from the Staffing Office (Academic Appointments), University of Leicester, University Road, Leicester LE1 7RH, telephone (0533) 522439, to whom applications (3 copies) should be sent by 9 June 1989.

UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER Department of Engineering SENIOR LECTURESHIP/ LECTURESHIP IN ELECTRONICS

Applications are invited for a Senior Lectureship/Lectureship in the general area of Electronics with particular reference to digital electronics.

The successful applicant will join one or more research groups associated with biomedical engineering (Signal Processing, man-machine interaction and transducer technology), power electronics or digital communications. The holder of the post will have a principal teaching role in digital electronic systems.

Initial salary, dependent on qualifications and experience will be within:

Senior Lectureship scale £29,200 to £34,500 or Lectureship scale £25,105 to £29,510 or Grade B £25,105 to £29,510.

Further particulars from the Staffing Office (Academic Appointments), University of Leicester, University Road, Leicester LE1 7RH, telephone (0533) 522439, to whom applications (3 copies) should be sent by 9 June 1989.

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SHOULD BE SENT TO:
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E1 9DD.



Loughborough UNIVERSITY Administrative Assistant

Applications are invited from graduates or equivalently qualified persons for the post of ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT in the Department of Civil Engineering. Various duties are concerned with the administration of all aspects of the Department's teaching and research. Initiative, numeracy and report-writing skills would be advantageous, as would an aptitude for or experience of using computerised information systems.

Salary on Administrative Grade 1 £18,775 - £19,080 or £12,150 or £15,720 (under review).

Postcard requests for further details and application form to the Establishment and Staffing Officer, quoting ref. 89/38 CV, Loughborough, Leicestershire LE11 3TU.

UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY Temporary Lecturer in History

Applications are invited for the post of Temporary Lecturer in History in the Department of History for the period 1 September 1989 to 31 March 1990.

Applicants should have research and teaching interests in British History between 1558 and 1689.

The salary will be at an appropriate point on the Lecturer Scale Grade A (£29,260 - £34,500 per annum) to a maximum rate of £11,680 per annum.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Registrar and Secretary, University of Durham, Old Shire Hall, Old Elvet, Durham, DH1 3HP (Telephone (091) 374 2995) to whom applications (three copies), including the names and addresses of three referees, should be sent not later than Friday 16 June 1989.



Loughborough UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY FIXED TERM LECTURESHIP IN PHYSICS

Applications are invited for a lectureship in the Department of Physics. The successful candidate will be expected to conduct research work in the area of Surface Science and to participate in the teaching programme for the M.Sc. course in Surface Science & Technology.

The appointment is for one year renewable for a further year.

The appointment will be made on the Lecturer Grade A scale, £29,260 - £34,500 p.a. (under review).

Application forms and further details are obtainable from the Establishment and Staffing Officer, quoting ref. 89/37 PH. The closing date for applications will be 9 June 1989.

Loughborough, Leicestershire LE11 3TU

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Sixth Form entry will continue: examinations will be held on 11 November 1989 - closing date for applications is 30 October.

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There will be an Open Day at the School on Friday 30 June. All enquiries should be made to the:

Headmaster's Secretary, The King's School, Canterbury, Kent CT1 2ES
Telephone: 0227 475501

HERTFORD COLLEGE OXFORD GRADUATE STUDENTSHIP IN GEOGRAPHY AND RELATED SUBJECTS

Hertford College, through the trustees of the Mortimer May Fund, intends to award a Senior Scholarship in Geography or related subjects. The scholarship will be tenable from October 1989.

Support will range from payment of fees and maintenance costs to top-up funding if the successful student is already in receipt of a graduate award. Applications will be subject to the approval of the Faculty Board of Anthropology and Geography.

Preference may be given to a candidate wishing to study some aspect of mathematical modelling in human geography. Applications from geographers and from students with backgrounds in mathematics, operational research or economics would be particularly welcome. Letters of recommendation should be sent to the Principal of Hertford College, Oxford, OX1 3BW, by May 31st.

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Applications are invited for the new post of Head Teacher of Eaton House School, which is a day school for boys and girls, situated in a beautiful country setting with 200 pupils and 20 staff. The successful candidate will be responsible for the overall management of the school and will be expected to lead the staff in the development of the school's curriculum and to ensure the highest standards of academic and sporting achievement. The post is full-time and will involve a significant travel allowance. The salary is negotiable and will be in the range £30,000 - £35,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Chairman of Governors, Eaton House School, 1 Eaton House, London SW1V 2JH.

THE UNIVERSITY OF SUSSEX CHAIR OF MOLECULAR GENETICS

The University of Sussex wishes to make an appointment to the Chair of Molecular Genetics in the School of Biological Sciences, which becomes vacant on 1st October 1989 following the retirement of Professor Neville Symonds.

Applicants are invited from men and women with research interests in any area of molecular genetics. The person appointed will be expected to provide academic leadership for all aspects of research and teaching in molecular genetics in the School.

Salary will be not less than £23,280 per annum (under review) plus membership of USS.

Further particulars and application forms may be obtained from Annette Herman, Personnel Office, Sussex House, The University of Sussex, Falmer Brighton BN1 9PL, Tel (0273) 876022, to whom applications should be returned not later than Monday, 12th June 1989.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

University of Bristol CHAIR IN ORGANIC CHEMISTRY

Applications are invited for the Chair in Organic Chemistry which will fall vacant on the retirement of Professor J. Macdonald, FRS. Satisfactory candidates are invited to submit applications by 21st July 1989. Further particulars of the appointment may be obtained from the Registrar, University of Bristol, Senate House, Bristol BS8 1TH.

UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER FACULTY OF LAW Lectureship in Law

Applications are invited from candidates with interests in any field of law for a Lectureship Grade A or B (tenable for three years from 1 September 1989). The post is a replacement for leave of absence.

Applicants should have a good honours degree in Law, and preferably a postgraduate degree. The successful candidate will be expected to teach a range of subjects, to engage in research and to carry out administrative duties assigned by the Head of Department.

Initial salary, dependent on the qualifications and experience of the Lecturer appointed, will be within Grade A, £29,260 to £34,500 or Grade B £25,105 to £29,510.

Further particulars from the Staffing Office (Academic Appointments), University of Leicester, University Road, Leicester LE1 7RH, telephone (0533) 522439, to whom applications on the form provided should be sent by 9 June 1989.

UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER INSTITUTE FOR DEVELOPMENT POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

Applications are invited for the following LECTURESHIPS: **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

The successful applicant will be a full-time post in the Institute's research programme in the general area of public sector financial management. A practical working experience, preferably in a developing country, and commitment to research essential. Knowledge of management information systems highly desirable.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT
The successful applicant will be involved in teaching on the Institute's range of Masters, diploma and short courses in the area of rural development. The successful candidate should be a graduate with several years' experience in the field of rural development and have a good knowledge of agricultural and rural development programmes, either at project, central government or NGO levels.

In both cases appointment will be for a one-year period in the first instance with the possibility of conversion into a three-year rolling contract. Salary according to qualifications and experience in the range £25,105 to £34,500 p.a. Further particulars and application forms should be sent to the Registrar, University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9PL, (tel: 061 275 2222) ext. 122/691. The University is an equal opportunities employer.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE SECRETARY TO THE DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY

Applications are invited for the post of Secretary to the Department of Geography from 1 October 1989. The duties will include the administration of the Department's business, including the management of the Department's staff, accommodation and equipment, as well as supervising the work of the Department's secretaries.

The post is suitable for a person with appropriate administrative experience or a young graduate with a good honours degree in Geography.

Further particulars may be obtained from Dr M.J. Home, General Board Office, The Old School, Cambridge CB2 1TJ, to whom applications should be sent by 13 June 1989.

UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL Administrative Assistant (European & International Affairs)

Applications are invited for the post of Administrative Assistant in the European & International Affairs Section. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day administration of the Section, including the management of the Section's staff, accommodation and equipment, as well as supervising the work of the Section's secretaries.

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CRICKET: AUSTRALIANS PREPARE TO BRING BACK INJURED JONES AGAINST YORKSHIRE AT HEADINGLEY TOMORROW

Marsh hits another century as touring team sharpens game

By John Woodcock

LORDS: Middlesex, with seven second-innings wickets in hand, are 169 runs ahead of the Australians.

Cricket in heaven must be played in the sort of weather we had at Lord's again yesterday, though it would be nice to think that the spinners get most of a look in up there. For Middlesex and the Australians the bowling is being done mostly off long runs and at the same brisk pace, more successfully by the Australians than their hosts.

The Australians are having, on the whole, a satisfactory match. Having seen Marsh make his first first-class hundred in England and his second of the tour at Lord's, and Moody showing encouraging form, Border declared Australia's first innings at 233 for two — 12 runs behind. This gave his bowlers the chance to show that they are sharpening their game.

There is promising news, too, of the injured Dean Jones: he will play against Yorkshire tomorrow in a one-day game and his wounds have healed enough to bring him into contention for the one-day internationals, starting at Old Trafford on Thursday.

Middlesex can never have confronted the Australians with an attack so lacking in variety. Although the ball turned, Gattling had only Embury to try and take

advantage of it, and when he bowled from the off-spinner's end, with the slope helping him, the leg-side boundary was so short that a mis-hit would go for six. Embury decided before long that this was not much fun and switched accordingly to the Nursery end.

The only Australian wickets to fall both went to catches by Ramprakash. Taylor hooking a long hop to him at square leg and Boon catching something up off bat and pad which just carried to cover point. The two West Australians, Marsh and Moody, then added 122, Marsh playing a thoroughly workmanlike innings and Moody identifying himself as a front foot player to be reckoned with.

At 6ft 8in Moody can claim to be the first-class cricketer's tallest batsman. He uses his height to get onto the front foot a lot, and no good, firm pitches captains will find themselves having to drop mid-on and mid-off back in their bowlers are to pitch the ball up.

Boon's declaration came as a surprise, though no more of a one than to see the ground staff appear in shorts, on account of the heat. A rumbling was reported from East Meon as Thomas Lord fidgeted in his grave. The groundsman's pitch was to be made to seem a good deal livelier when Lawsoo and

Alderman bowled on it than it had when Middlesex were in the field.

These two gave Carr and Haynes a torrid time, and when they went, Haynes to a very good catch at short leg by Boon, Gattling survived any number of appeals, coming from all parts of the field, for leg before. This was good, aggressive bowling, of a fair length.

MIDDLESEX: First innings
J D Carr b Moody 22
O L Haynes b Embury 10
M W Gattling b Marsh 46
R D Boon c Alderman b Ramprakash 51
R D Ramprakash not out 48
P R Downton b Marsh 3
J E Embury c Voelcker b Alderman 4
J E Voelcker b Ramprakash 1
B P Hughes b Ramprakash 1
A R C Fraser b Ramprakash 1
N G Coward b Embury 1
Extras (b 5, w 2, nb 2) 11
Total 246

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-2, 2-60, 3-142, 4-154, 5-162, 6-162, 7-162, 8-162, 9-162, 10-162, 11-162, 12-162, 13-162, 14-162, 15-162, 16-162, 17-162, 18-162, 19-162, 20-162, 21-162, 22-162, 23-162, 24-162, 25-162, 26-162, 27-162, 28-162, 29-162, 30-162, 31-162, 32-162, 33-162, 34-162, 35-162, 36-162, 37-162, 38-162, 39-162, 40-162, 41-162, 42-162, 43-162, 44-162, 45-162, 46-162, 47-162, 48-162, 49-162, 50-162, 51-162, 52-162, 53-162, 54-162, 55-162, 56-162, 57-162, 58-162, 59-162, 60-162, 61-162, 62-162, 63-162, 64-162, 65-162, 66-162, 67-162, 68-162, 69-162, 70-162, 71-162, 72-162, 73-162, 74-162, 75-162, 76-162, 77-162, 78-162, 79-162, 80-162, 81-162, 82-162, 83-162, 84-162, 85-162, 86-162, 87-162, 88-162, 89-162, 90-162, 91-162, 92-162, 93-162, 94-162, 95-162, 96-162, 97-162, 98-162, 99-162, 100-162, 101-162, 102-162, 103-162, 104-162, 105-162, 106-162, 107-162, 108-162, 109-162, 110-162, 111-162, 112-162, 113-162, 114-162, 115-162, 116-162, 117-162, 118-162, 119-162, 120-162, 121-162, 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FOOTBALL: LIVERPOOL WALTZ TO A DESERVED FA CUP VICTORY WHILE ONLY A MISTAKE CAN SEPARATE THE OLD FIRM IN A LACK-LUSTRE SCOTTISH FINAL

Celtic spoil party as Rangers discover error of their ways

By Roddy Forsyth

Celtic.....1
Rangers.....0

A poignant little scene was played out in a side street in the West End of Glasgow two hours before the kick off in Saturday's Scottish Cup final. Two tall and lanky black Americans, formerly members of Rangers' basketball team which is now surplus to the club's requirements, were loading their possessions into the hired van which would take them back to London, where they used to perform as Kingston players.

It was a reminder that the regime of David Murray, who bought Rangers last autumn, is devoted solely to success on the football field and there were those who confidently anticipated that the annexation of all three domestic trophies in one season would merely be the first fruits of that policy. Such a view did not take into account the peculiar chemistry of Glasgow's potent football rivalry.

The tone of the 104th Scottish Cup final could not be guessed from the four Old Firm league matches which preceded it and which produced an astonishing average of 4.5 goals a game, but rather from the meeting of Rangers and Celtic in the 1973 final, the circumstances of which were almost a mirror image of their latest collision.

Sixteen years ago it was a dazzling Celtic side, containing the likes of Dalgleish, McNeill, Johnstone and Hay, who had won, under the guidance of Jock Stein, the Skol Cup and the championship and who were fancied to take the treble in Rangers' centenary year. Rangers ran themselves into the Hampden pitch to prevent such an unpalatable outcome on that occasion and, in this latest encounter, Celtic were always bound to be similarly obstinate.

Given the depleted resources of each side, the principal tactics were almost inevitably spoilt. Celtic, as predicted in these pages oo



Winner by a neck: Aitken, of Rangers, proves a real handful for McCoist, of Celtic, during Saturday's Scottish Cup final

Saturday, pushed Aitken into right midfield to block supply to the versatile Walters, while Rangers surprised by deploying Munro in the middle of the park to contain McStay. These moves deprived the game of the creativity which is at a premium in Old Firm matches.

In the first half Rangers attempted to exploit McCoist's lack of pace by playing the ball into the space behind him.

He lay closer to goal while Rangers struck long, flat and predictable balls up the pitch and when McCoist did find available space he was quickly smothered by Morris. With the teams having cancelled each other out, it required a set-piece or a mistake to create

the breakthrough. Fate selected Stevens to contribute an unforced error, with a woefully short pass back to Woods, immediately despatched behind the stricken goalkeeper by the alert Miller. Matters improved in the second half, but not a lot. Rangers at last switched Walters to the right, where he immediately began to distress Rogan and the arrival of Souness added composure to the midfield, but there was too little time for these moves to disrupt Celtic's defensive

condon. Celtic: P. Borman; C. Morris, A. Rogan, P. McStay, J. Miller, M. McShane, T. Burns. Rangers: C. Woods, G. Stevenson, S. Munro (sub: G. Soutar), P. Brough, M. Barlow (sub: G. Cooper), T. Buncher, K. O'Neill, I. Ferguson, A. McCoist, J. Brown, M. Walters. Referee: H. Valentine.

Swindon's advantage due to an own goal

By Clive White

Swindon Town.....1
Crystal Palace.....0

Talk about after the Lord Mayor's Show. The only thing that Wembley on Saturday and the County Ground yesterday had in common was the weather. While the warm sunshine may have helped to make perfect an FA Cup final which already had just about everything else, it could do little to brighten the quality of entertainment served up by two teams who harbour the impertinent dream of sharing the same field as the likes of Liverpool and Everton next season.

Football played in such idyllic weather, at least in England, seems incongruous at the best of times and merely reminded one of the days when a season finally closed with the Wembley showpiece. The manufacture of drama of the play-off can only pale beside the spontaneity of a final like Saturday's.

Without the involvement of this season of a first division club, it seems all the more absurd. What is more, it is disrespectful considering that the fate of West Ham United and Aston Villa is still to be sealed. One shuddered at the thought of either Swindon Town or Crystal Palace being promoted in their place.

It took an own goal by Hopkins, the Palace centre-back, to give them a narrow advantage to take to Selhurst Park on Wednesday for the return leg.

In the absence of Neill and O'Reilly from their defence, Palace will doubtless be satisfied with the result. Surely, Wright and Bright, their prolific duo, cannot be as inconspicuous again.

Palace had survived without too much difficulty by the 52nd minute. There seemed little to fear when Hodgson, receiving a cute pass from Foley, played it into the path of the returning Hopkins. But the Welsh international steered the ball past his own goalkeeper.

It was as if Hopkins had shown Swindon the way. White hit the crossbar and Calderwood did likewise after a deflection of Hodgman. But it was not enough to suggest that they will hold on to their lead let alone win at Selhurst Park for the first time in 30 years.

SWINDON TOWN: P. Digby; G. Hodgson, P. King, J. Jones, T. Pugh, Calderwood, S. Foley, G. Shearer, A. McLoughlin, R. Macdonald. Crystal Palace: P. Suckling; J. Pennington, O. Burns, O. Madden, J. Hopkins, R. Haden, E. Macdonald, A. Parker, M. Bright, I. Wright, P. Barlow (sub: G. Pennington). Referee: T. J. Holtbrook.

Finalists fulfil expectation

COMMENTARY



David Miller

Chief Sports Correspondent

It was, ultimately, a Cup Final worthy of all the expectation placed upon it. The right team won, for it had proved itself in the first hour overwhelmingly the more accomplished team; yet it was good for football, and good for Everton, that Liverpool did not win 4-0, as they could have done, but were thrillingly extended in such dramatic fashion by Stuart McCall, one of two belatedly emerging heroic figures.

There are often subtle psychological turning points in sports: the outstretched hand who suddenly realizes his opponent is weakening, the spin-bowler who is sought for 60 who senses the wicket is suddenly turning for him. It happened for Everton 10 minutes into the second half.

For almost an hour, they had been technically and morally played out of sight. In all but the score, still a single goal, the result seemed a formality. Liverpool, the most technically complete English team of the past decade and more, still probably alone fit to challenge the best of Europe, had shown that modern football essentially begins in the back line. The passing of Neal and Hansen, W. Ball, McMillan and Houghton, had been from the blueprint.

By contrast, Everton had

taken so long to move the ball forward coherently when gaining possession that Liverpool always had eight or nine men reassembled, waiting to block them. Tactically, the contest was dead.

Then suddenly Everton realized the need, and the scope as a hot, exhausting afternoon, to harness those hammering figures in red. They were a throw-up, nothing more, on the right by sheer will-power. The blue ranks on the terraces swelled with a roar of appreciation in recognition of a spirit not yet extinguished. Three minutes later, McCall replaced Brackwell, and Everton were in real pursuit of an objective that had seemed utterly beyond them: McCall's red head and striding legs surging up and down the field with inspirational determination.

It is a mere detail that when he finally stabbed home the

equalizer, from Watson's low, parried cross, that Celtic was offside on the goal-line. A memorable final was in that instant created; and we could forget all the escapist sentiment of community singing which had predictably occurred before the kick-off; the equally predictable scurrying by many Anfield followers of the National Anthem, misguidedly preferring to render 'You'll Never Walk Alone' as some kind of separatist anthem because of Royal absence from the memorial service; and a legions of Wembley announcer gratuitously telling us the minute's silence was "magnificent".

Those who had departed to catch an early train missed a royal climax. Rush, who had so wretchedly failed to acclimatize to Turin and had remained a fringe figure upon his return home, now restored Liverpool's lead with a goal on the turn characteristic of former days, from another stunning pass from Nicol, now switched to the left.

Everton's response was another equalizer of classic timing hit by McCall. Like Treblecock in 1966 a comparatively unknown reserve arriving at Wembley to score two goals: yet, sadly, not this time as a winner. Within barely two min-

utes, Rush had scored another, with a meticulously angled header, re-establishing his fame for all time. With two touches he seemed to have made Aldridge, his lookalike, redundant.

Now it was dependant on Southall, that remarkable Welsh goalkeeper, to prevent Liverpool's victory becoming the root it might have been an hour earlier. His save from Barnes in the second half of extra time was among the best we have seen at Wembley, and how our hearts went out to Colin Harvey's defeated men. How appropriate might have been a tied final and the shared trophy which the FA refused to consider?

Wembley authorities have rightly said the fences must be moved. Nothing could be more absurd than the sight, familiar a dozen years ago, of hundreds of police and stewards attempting to cope with unruly among the crowd, even when not making.

It is paramount in the re-education of the football public that it comes to realize it is not part of the match. Its belief that it has been part of an ignorant philosophy encouraged by managers, players and directors during the dark days of the past 20 years.

Blackburn lacking in finish

By Ian Ross

Blackburn Rovers.....0
Watford.....0

The violent under-currents of the match broke surface in the 14th minute when Miller, of Watford, and Gayle, of Blackburn, exchanged punches which left the former in a motionless state in the centre circle.

A matter of a few seconds later, McClelland, the Watford captain, received a stern lecture for a retaliatory tackle on Gayle. On the balance of play the home side should have won with some considerable ease but their finishing was such that Cotton, the Watford goalkeeper, was only rarely troubled and on the few occasions he was threatened with embarrassment a colleague duly arrived.

Blackburn Rovers, the perennial underdogs of English football, saw their vision of the first division fade yesterday when they became trapped in a defensive web ably woven by Watford.

The teams will meet again in a second leg at Vicarage Road on Wednesday night to determine who will move forward to contest, with either Swindon Town or Crystal Palace, the second division's solitary remaining promotion place.

FA Cup final

EVERTON (0) 2 LIVERPOOL (1) 3
Aldridge, Rush (2)
McCall (2)
9,229
(at Wembley; sat 7-1 after 90 mins)

Scottish Cup final

CELTIC (1) 1 RANGERS (0) 0
Miller (at Hampden Park)

Welsh Cup final

SWANSEA (1) 5 KERSHAW (0) 0
Wade, James, Haynor, Hutchison, Thomas (at Swansea)

Yesterday

Barclays League

Play-offs

Semi-finals, first leg

Second division

BLACKBURN (0) 0 WATFORD (0) 0

SWINDON (0) 1 C PALACE (0) 0

Hopkins (og)

WEEKEND RESULTS

Third division

BRISTOL R (0) 1 FULHAM (0) 0

Perrins

Fourth division

LETON (0) 2 SCARBORO (0) 0

Cooper (2)

WIDESPAN (0) 3 SCILTHRIP (1) 1

Wright, Keane (2)

World Cup: European group three

East Germany 1, Austria 1 (Lapovik)

Soviet Union

Turkey

Austria

East Germany

East Asia Zone Group six

Indonesia 0, North Korea 0 (Jatir)

FRUGHER LEAGUE: Bordeaux 2, Caen 2

Level 0, Toulon 0, Lens 0, Paris Saint-Germain 0, Marseille 2, Auxerre 1, Metz 1, Lille 0, Metz 0, Monaco 2

Nantes 1, Cannes 1, Nice 3, Sochaux 2, St Etienne 1, Montpellier 0, Strasbourg 4

Toulon 1, Final positions: 1, Marseille, 2, 3, Monaco, 30, 35

ITALIAN LEAGUE: Caserta 0, AC Milan 0

Astoria 1, Genoa 0, Bologna 0, Internazionale 0, Juventus 2, Roma 1, Lazio 1, Fiorentina 0, Napoli 4, Torino 1

Pescara 1, Lazio 1, Pisa 3, Sampdoria 1, Verona 0, Ascoli 1, Lazio 1, Lazio 1, Lazio 1

Inter Milan, played 20, 20pts; 2, Napoli, 20, 42; 3, AC Milan, 20, 37

SOVIET CUP: Semi-final: Torpedo Moscow 2, Dynamo Kiev 0

SPANISH LEAGUE: Athletic Madrid 3, Real Madrid 2

WEST GERMAN LEAGUE: Hannover 2, Cologne 2, Bayern Munich 2, St Pauli 1

Hamburg 2, VfB Stuttgart 1, Kaiserslautern 1, Karlsruher 2, Bayer Leverkusen 2, Elmira Frankfurt 2, Borussia Mönchengladbach 2, Bochum 0, Borussia Dortmund 4, Uerdingen 2, Ludog 2, Ludog 2

Lower 1, Bremen Munich, played 30, 40pts; 2, Cologne, 30, 42; 3, Hamburg, 30, 36

Friday's results

INTERNATIONAL: Iceland 0, England 2 (Rydgren)

THE WAR

Sugar Ray Leonard

Thomas 'Hitman' Hearns

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